

RAPPORT BETREFFENDE HET ONDERZOEK NAAR DE STAND VAN DE TECHNIEK

| Van belang zijnde literatuur | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Categorie ¹ | Vermelding van literatuur met aanduiding, voor zover nodig, van speciaal van belang zijnde tekstgedeelten of figuren. | Van belang voor conclusie(s) Nr.: | International Patent Classification (IPC) |
| E, X | NL 1018546-C (Ciba Specialty Chemicals Holding Inc.) | 1-12 | C08K5/3435 C08K5/3477 |
| E, X | NL 1018187-C (Ciba Specialty Chemicals Holding Inc.) | 1-12 | C08K5/3492 C08K5/357 |
| X | US 5919399 (Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp.) * gelet op kol. 31, punt 1 * | 1-12 | C07D251/65 |
| X | US 5980783 (Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp.) * gelet op kol. 43, punt 1 * | 1-12 | Onderzochte gebieden van de techniek, gedefinieerd volgens IPC 7 C08K5 |
| D, X | US 5679733 (Clariant Finance (BVI) Ltd.) * gelet op kol. 13, r. 18 en 25 en kol. 14, r. 6-11* | 1-12 | |
| X | EP 0476612-A2 (Enichem Synthesis Spa) * gelet op pag. 12, r. 43 * | 1-12 | |
| A | US 6013703 (Witco Vinyl Additives GmbH) | 1-12 | Computerbestanden |
| A | US 6020406 (Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp.) | | Epodoc WPI |

Indien gewijzigde conclusies zijn ingediend, heeft dit rapport betrekking op de conclusies ingediend op:

Omvang van het onderzoek: Volledig

Onderzochte conclusies: Alle

Niet (volledig) onderzochte conclusies met redenen: ²

Datum waarop het onderzoek werd voltooid: 29-05-2002

Vooronderzoeker: Drs. R.B. Boers

¹ Verklaring van de categorie-aanduiding: zie apart blad.

² Op grond van artikel 3:45 j° de artikelen 6:4 en 6:7 van de Algemene wet bestuursrecht, kan aanvrager tegen de niet-eenheidsbeslissing bezwaar maken bij het Bureau voor de Industriële Eigendom, binnen 6 weken na de bekendmaking van deze beslissing.

Categorie van de vermelde literatuur:

- X: op zichzelf van bijzonder belang zijnde stand van de techniek
- Y: in samenhang met andere geciteerd literatuur van bijzonder belang zijnde stand van de techniek
- A: niet tot de categorie X of Y behorende van belang zijnde stand van de techniek
- O: verwijzend naar niet op schrift gestelde stand van de techniek
- P: literatuur gepubliceerd tussen voorrangs- en indieningsdatum
- T: niet tijdig gepubliceerde literatuur over theorie of principe ten grondslag liggend aan de uitvinding
- E: colliderende octrooiaanvraag
- D: in de aanvraag genoemd
- L: om andere redenen vermelde literatuur
- &: lid van dezelfde octrooifamilie; corresponderende literatuur

**AANHANGSEL BEHORENDE BIJ HET RAPPORT BETREFFENDE HET ONDERZOEK NAAR DE
STAND VAN DE TECHNIEK, UITGEVOERD IN OCTROOIAANVRAGE NR.1019181**

Het aanhangsel bevat een opgave van elders gepubliceerde octrooiaanvragen of octrooien (zogenaamde leden van dezelfde octrooifamilie), die overeenkomen met octrooigeschriften genoemd in het rapport.

De opgave is samengesteld aan de hand van gegevens uit het computerbestand van het Europees Octrooibureau 6 juni 2002

De juistheid en volledigheid van deze opgave wordt noch door het Europees Octrooibureau, noch door het Bureau voor de Industriële Eigendom gegarandeerd; de gegevens worden verstrekt voor informatiedoeleinden.

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Algemene informatie over dit aanhangsel is gepubliceerd in de 'Official Journal' van het Europees Octrooibureau nr 12/82 blz 448 ev

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RAPPORT DE RECHERCHE PRÉLIMINAIRE

établi sur la base des dernières revendications
déposées avant le commencement de la recherche

N° d'enregistrement
national

FA 610627
FR 0113247

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDÉRÉS COMME PERTINENTS | | Revendication(s) concernée(s) | Classement attribué à l'invention par l'INPI |
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| | | | DOMAINES TECHNIQUES RECHERCHÉS (Int.CL.7) |
| | | | C08K |
| Date d'achèvement de la recherche | | Examineur | |
| 8 juillet 2002 | | Engel, H | |
| CATÉGORIE DES DOCUMENTS CITÉS | | | |
| X : particulièrement pertinent à lui seul Y : particulièrement pertinent en combinaison avec un autre document de la même catégorie A : arrière-plan technologique O : divulgation non-écrite P : document intercalaire | | T : théorie ou principe à la base de l'invention E : document de brevet bénéficiant d'une date antérieure à la date de dépôt et qui n'a été publié qu'à cette date de dépôt ou qu'à une date postérieure. D : cité dans la demande L : cité pour d'autres raisons & : membre de la même famille, document correspondant | |

**ANNEXE AU RAPPORT DE RECHERCHE PRÉLIMINAIRE
RELATIF A LA DEMANDE DE BREVET FRANÇAIS NO. FR 0113247 FA 610627**

La présente annexe indique les membres de la famille de brevets relatifs aux documents brevets cités dans le rapport de recherche préliminaire visé ci-dessus.
Les dits membres sont contenus au fichier informatique de l'Office européen des brevets à la date du 08-07-2002
Les renseignements fournis sont donnés à titre indicatif et n'engagent pas la responsabilité de l'Office européen des brevets, ni de l'Administration française

| Document brevet cité au rapport de recherche | Date de publication | Membre(s) de la famille de brevet(s) | Date de publication |
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Stabilized metallocene polyolefins

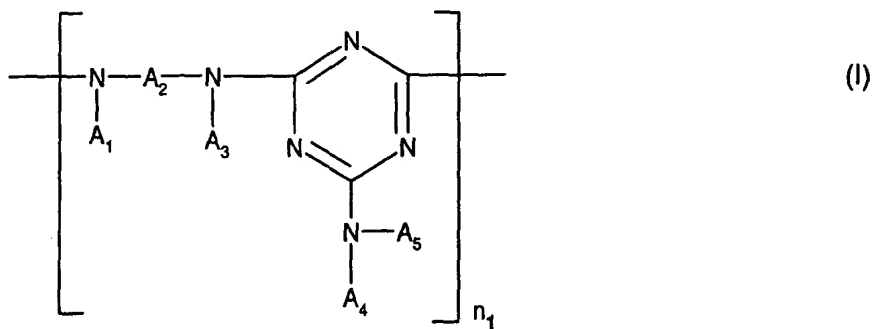
The present invention relates to a composition containing a polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst, and a hindered amine light stabilizer system.

Hindered amine light stabilizer systems are described, for example, in US-A-4,863,981, US-A-5,719,217, EP-A-632,092, EP-A-741,163, EP-A-723,990, GB-A-2,267,499 and Research Disclosure 34,549 (January 1993). EP-A-814,127 discloses embrittlement-resistant polyolefin compositions. US-A-5,955,522 describes a process for the preparation of olefin polymers by polymerization over a transition metallocene catalyst with the addition of a sterically hindered amine.

In more detail, the present invention relates to a composition containing

- I) a polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst, and
- II) a stabilizer mixture comprising two different components selected from the group of components a), b) and c);

component a) is at least one compound of the formula (I)



wherein

A₁, A₃, A₄ and A₅ independently of one another are hydrogen, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl, C₁-C₄alkyl-substituted C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl, phenyl, -OH- and/or C₁-C₁₀alkyl-substituted phenyl, C₇-C₉phenylalkyl, C₇-C₉phenylalkyl which is substituted on the phenyl radical by -OH and/or C₁-C₁₀alkyl; or a group of the formula (II),



with A_6 being hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, O^- , $-OH$, $-CH_2CN$, C_1 - C_{18} alkoxy, C_5 - C_{12} cycloalkoxy, C_3 - C_6 alkenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenylalkyl unsubstituted or substituted on the phenyl by 1, 2 or 3 C_1 - C_4 alkyl; or C_1 - C_8 acyl,

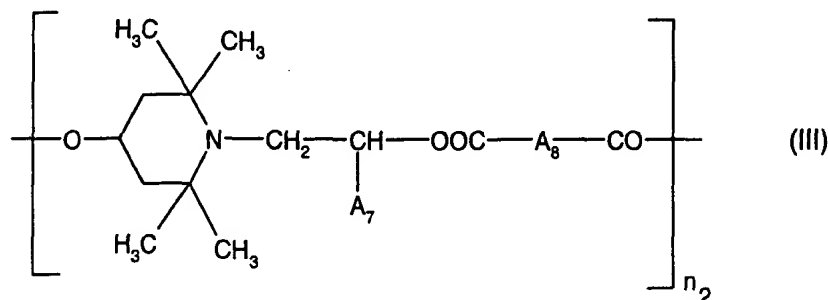
A_2 is C_2 - C_{18} alkylene, C_5 - C_7 cycloalkylene or C_1 - C_4 alkylenedi(C_5 - C_7 cycloalkylene), or the radicals A_1 , A_2 and A_3 , together with the nitrogen atoms to which they are attached, form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, or

A_4 and A_5 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring,

n_1 is a number from 2 to 50, and

at least one of the radicals A_1 , A_3 , A_4 and A_5 is a group of the formula (II);

component b) is at least one compound of the formula (III)



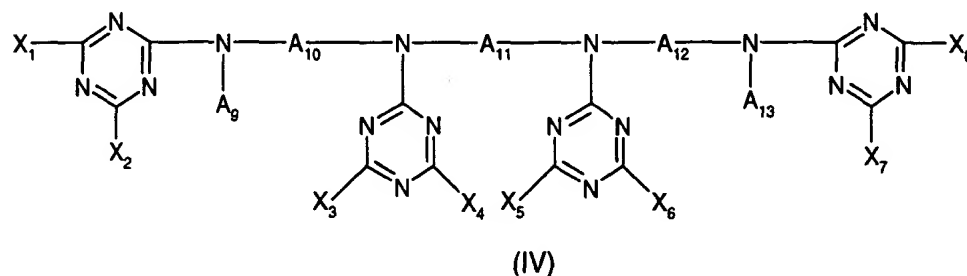
wherein

A_7 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl,

A_8 is a direct bond or C_1 - C_{10} alkylene and

n_2 is a number from 2 to 50; and

component c) is at least one compound of the formula (IV)

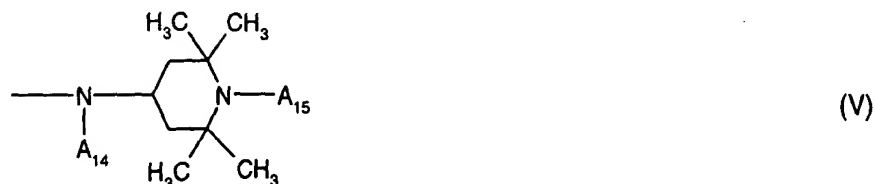


wherein

A_9 and A_{13} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_{12} alkyl,

A_{10} , A_{11} and A_{12} independently of one another are C_2 - C_{10} alkylene, and

X₁, X₂, X₃, X₄, X₅, X₆, X₇ and X₈ independently of one another are a group of the formula (V),



in which A₁₄ is hydrogen, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl, C₁-C₄alkyl-substituted C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl, phenyl, -OH- and/or C₁-C₁₀alkyl-substituted phenyl, C₇-C₉phenylalkyl, C₇-C₉phenylalkyl which is substituted on the phenyl radical by -OH and/or C₁-C₁₀alkyl; or a group of the formula (II) as defined above, and

A₁₅ has one of the meanings of A₆;

with the proviso that the group -N(A₄)(A₅) does not contain a cycloalkyl group when the stabilizer mixture comprises the two components a) and b).

Examples of alkyl having not more than 12 carbon atoms are methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, 2-ethylbutyl, n-pentyl, isopentyl, 1-methylpentyl, 1,3-dimethylbutyl, n-hexyl, 1-methylhexyl, n-heptyl, isoheptyl, 1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl, 1-methylheptyl, 3-methylheptyl, n-octyl, 2-ethylhexyl, 1,1,3-trimethylhexyl, 1,1,3,3-tetramethylpentyl, nonyl, decyl, undecyl and dodecyl. A preferred meaning of A₅ is C₁-C₈alkyl, e.g. C₄-C₈alkyl. A preferred meaning of A₆ and A₁₅ is C₁-C₄alkyl, in particular methyl. A preferred meaning of A₁₄ is C₁-C₄alkyl, in particular butyl.

Examples of alkoxy containing not more than 18 carbon atoms are methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, butoxy, isobutoxy, pentoxy, isopentoxy, hexoxy, heptoxy, octoxy, decyloxy, dodecyloxy, tetradecyloxy, hexadecyloxy and octadecyloxy. C₆-C₁₂Alkoxy, in particular heptoxy and octoxy, is one of the preferred meanings of A₆ and A₁₅.

Examples of C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl are cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl and cyclododecyl. C₅-C₈cycloalkyl, especially cyclohexyl, is preferred.

C₁-C₄alkyl-substituted C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl is for example methylcyclohexyl or dimethylcyclohexyl.

Examples of C_5 - C_{12} cycloalkoxy are cyclopentoxy, cyclohexoxy, cycloheptoxy, cyclooctoxy, cyclodecyloxy, cyclododecyloxy and methylcyclohexoxy. C_5 - C_8 Cycloalkoxy, in particular cyclopentoxy and cyclohexoxy, is preferred.

Examples of C_3 - C_6 alkenyl are allyl, 2-methylallyl, butenyl and hexenyl. Alkenyls in which the carbon atom in the 1-position is saturated are preferred, and allyl is particularly preferred.

Examples of C_1 - C_8 acyl (aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic) are formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, pentanoyl, hexanoyl, heptanoyl, octanoyl and benzoyl. C_1 - C_8 Alkanoyl and benzoyl are preferred. Acetyl is especially preferred.

-OH- and/or C_1 - C_{10} alkyl-substituted phenyl is for example methylphenyl, dimethylphenyl, trimethylphenyl, tert-butylphenyl or 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl.

Examples of C_7 - C_9 phenylalkyl are benzyl and phenylethyl.

C_7 - C_9 phenylalkyl which is substituted on the phenyl radical by -OH and/or by alkyl having up to 10 carbon atoms is, for example, methylbenzyl, dimethylbenzyl, trimethylbenzyl, tert-butylbenzyl or 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl.

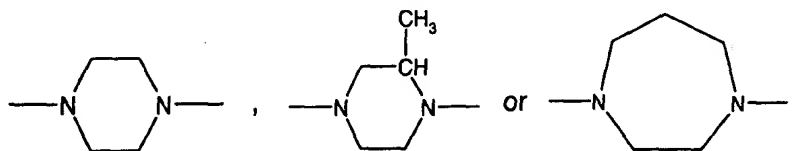
Examples of alkylene containing not more than 18 carbon atoms are ethylene, propylene, trimethylene, tetramethylene, pentamethylene, hexamethylene, octamethylene, decamethylene, dodecamethylene and octadecamethylene. A_2 is for example C_2 - C_8 alkylene or C_4 - C_8 alkylene, in particular C_2 - C_6 alkylene, preferably hexamethylene. A_8 is preferably ethylene and the radicals A_{10} , A_{11} and A_{12} independently of one another are in particular C_2 - C_4 alkylene.

An example of C_5 - C_7 cycloalkylene is cyclohexylene.

Examples of C_1 - C_4 alkylenedi(C_5 - C_7 cycloalkylene) are cyclohexylene-methylene-cyclohexylene and cyclohexylene-isopropylidene-cyclohexylene.

Where the radicals A_1 , A_2 and A_3 , together with the nitrogen atoms to which they are

attached, form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, the resulting ring is for example



A 6-membered heterocyclic ring is preferred.

Where the radicals A₄ and A₅, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, the resulting ring is for example 1-pyrrolidyl, piperidino, morpholino, 1-piperazinyl, 4-methyl-1-piperazinyl, 1-hexahydroazepinyl, 5,5,7-trimethyl-1-homopiperazinyl or 4,5,5,7-tetramethyl-1-homopiperazinyl. Morpholino is particularly preferred.

One of the preferred meanings of A₄ is hydrogen, 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl or 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl.

A₁ and A₃ are preferably a group of the formula (II), in particular 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl or 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl.

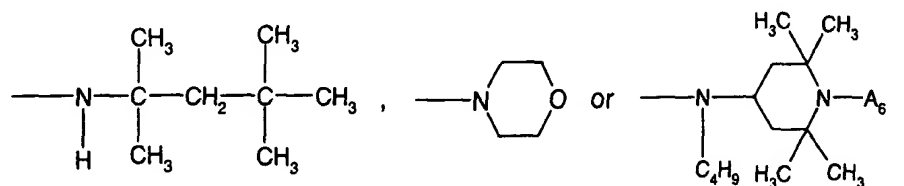
A₆ is preferably hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl, -OH, C₆-C₁₂alkoxy, C₅-C₈cycloalkoxy, allyl, benzyl or acetyl, in particular hydrogen or C₁-C₄alkyl, e.g. hydrogen or methyl.

n₁ is preferably a number from 2 to 25.

n₂ is preferably a number from 2 to 25, especially 2 to 20 or 2 to 10.

When the stabilizer mixture contains the two components a) and b), the group -N(A₄)(A₅) is preferably hydrogen, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, a group of the formula (II) or morpholino.

When the stabilizer mixture contains the two components a) and b), the group -N(A₄)(A₅) is in particular



The compounds of components a), b) and c) are known and most of them are commercially available. The compounds of component a) can be prepared, for example, in analogy to the methods described in US-A-4,086,204, US-A-4,331,586 or EP-A-782,994. The compounds of component b) can be prepared, for example, in analogy to the method described in US-A-4,233,412. The compounds of component c) can be prepared, for example, in analogy to the method described in US-A-4,108,829.

Component a) is e.g. [®]CHIMASSORB 944, [®]CHIMASSORB 2020, [®]CYASORB UV 3346 or [®]DASTIB 1082, in particular [®]CHIMASSORB 944, [®]CHIMASSORB 2020 or [®]CYASORB UV 3346; component b) is preferably [®]TINUVIN 622; and component c) is preferably [®]CHIMASSORB 119.

When the stabilizer mixture contains the two components a) and b), component a) is different from [®]DASTIB 1082.

The products disclosed in EP-A-782,994, which have a narrow molecular weight distribution with a well defined polydispersity $\overline{M}_w/\overline{M}_n$ of 1.1 to 1.7 are also preferred as component a). EP-A-782,994 is equivalent to US Patent Application No. 08/756,225 filed on November 25, 1996, which is incorporated herein by reference.

A stabilizer mixture containing [®]CHIMASSORB 944 and [®]TINUVIN 622 is commercially available as [®]TINUVIN 783 and a stabilizer mixture containing [®]TINUVIN 622 and [®]CHIMASSORB 119 is commercially available as [®]TINUVIN 111. These mixtures are particularly preferred.

Further preferred embodiments relate to the following combinations of stabilizers:

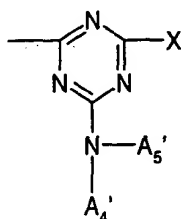
- 1) the mixture of [®]CHIMASSORB 944 and [®]CHIMASSORB 119,
- 2) the mixture of [®]CHIMASSORB 2020 and [®]TINUVIN 622,

- 3) the mixture of [®]CHIMASSORB 2020 and [®]CHIMASSORB 119,
- 4) the mixture of [®]CYASORB UV 3346 and [®]TINUVIN 622,
- 5) the mixture of [®]CYASORB UV 3346 and [®]CHIMASSORB 119, and
- 6) the mixture of [®]DASTIB 1082 and [®]CHIMASSORB 119.

In general, the weight ratio of the two different components which form the stabilizer mixture is 1:20 to 20:1, e.g 1:10 to 10:1, preferably 1:5 to 5:1, in particular 1:2 to 2:1.

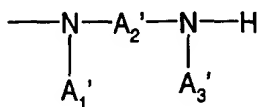
The definition of the terminal groups which saturate the free valences in the compounds of the formulae (I) and (II) depend on the processes used for their preparation. The terminal groups can also be modified after the preparation of the compounds.

In the compounds of the formula (I), the terminal group bonded to the diamino radical is for example hydrogen or



with X being halogen, especially chlorine, and A₄' and A₅' having one of the definitions given above for A₄ and A₅,

and the terminal group bonded to the triazine radical is for example X or

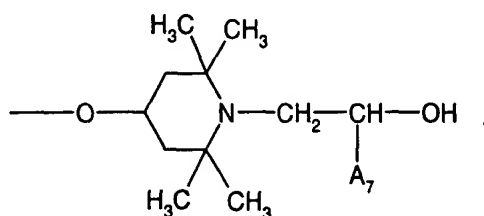


with A₁' and A₃' having one of the definitions given above for A₁ and A₃, and A₂' having one of the definitions given above for A₂.

If X is halogen, it is advantageous to replace it, for example, by -OH or an amino group. Examples of amino groups which may be mentioned are pyrrolidin-1-yl, morpholino, -NH₂, -N(C₁-C₈alkyl)₂ and -N(A)(C₁-C₈alkyl) in which A is hydrogen or a group of the formula (II).

In the compounds of the formula (III), the terminal group bonded to the 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-oxy-1-piperidyl radical is for example hydrogen or -CO-A₆-COOQ with Q being e.g. methyl,

ethyl or propyl, and the terminal group bonded to the diacyl radical is for example -OQ or a group



A preferred embodiment relates to a composition wherein

A_1 , A_3 , A_4 and A_5 independently of one another are hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, methyl-substituted C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenylalkyl or a group of the formula (II), or the radicals A_4 and A_5 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 6-membered heterocyclic ring,

A_2 is C_2 - C_{10} alkylene, and

n_1 is a number from 2 to 25;

A_7 is hydrogen or methyl,

A_8 is ethylene; and

n_2 is a number from 2 to 25; and

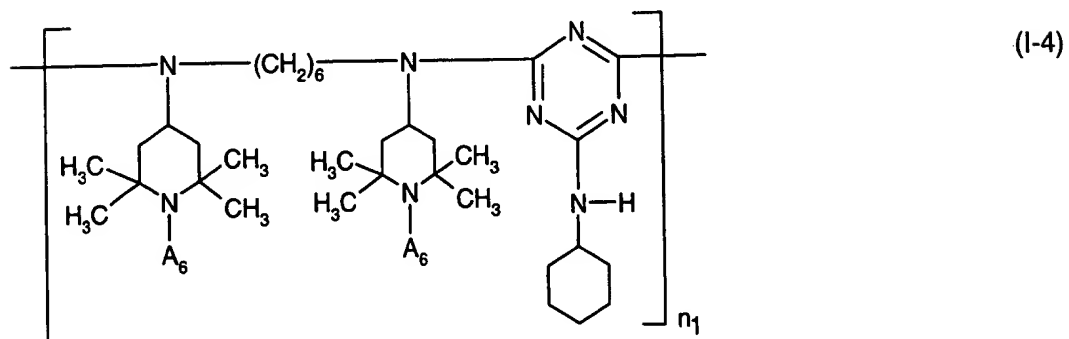
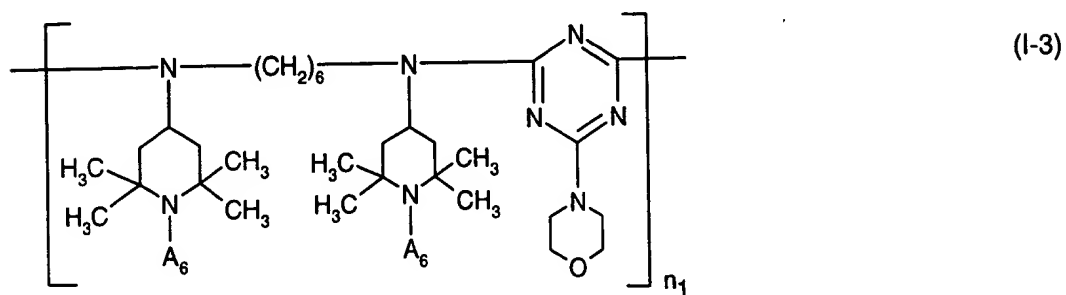
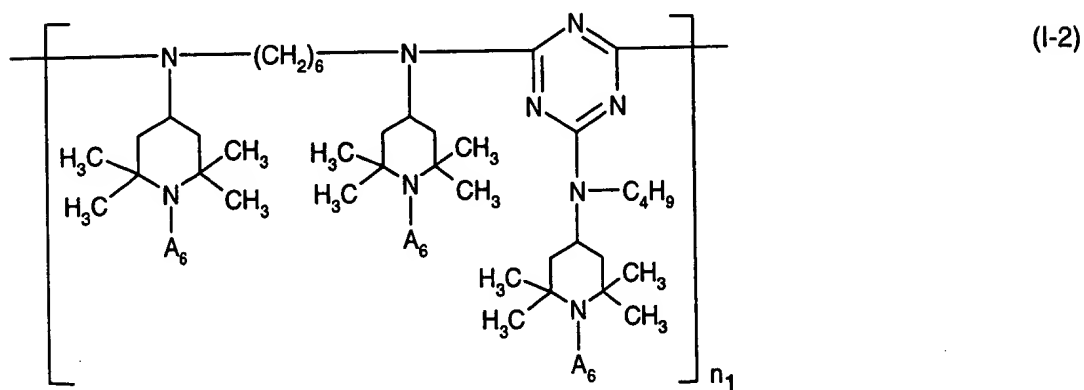
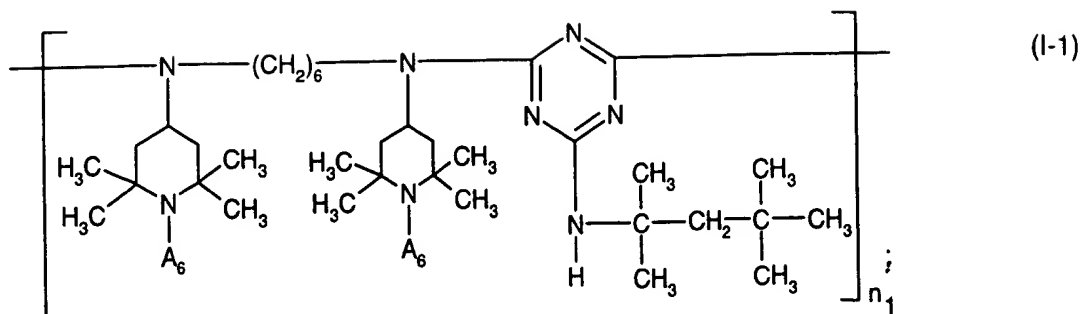
A_9 and A_{13} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl,

A_{10} , A_{11} and A_{12} independently of one another are C_2 - C_6 alkylene, and

A_{14} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, methyl-substituted C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenylalkyl or a group of the formula (II).

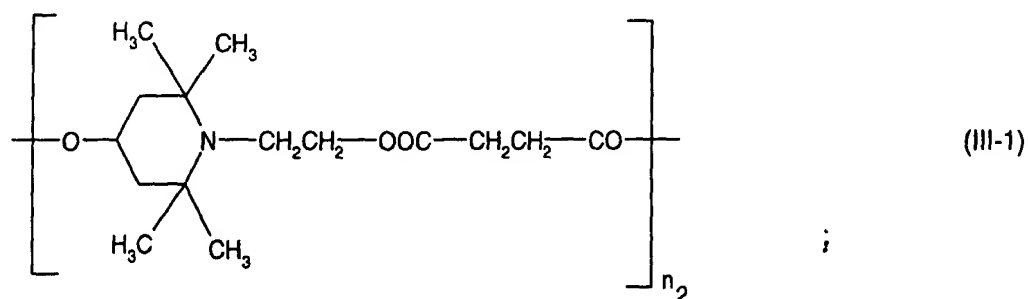
A particularly preferred embodiment relates to a composition wherein

component a) is at least one compound of the formula (I-1), (I-2), (I-3) or (I-4);



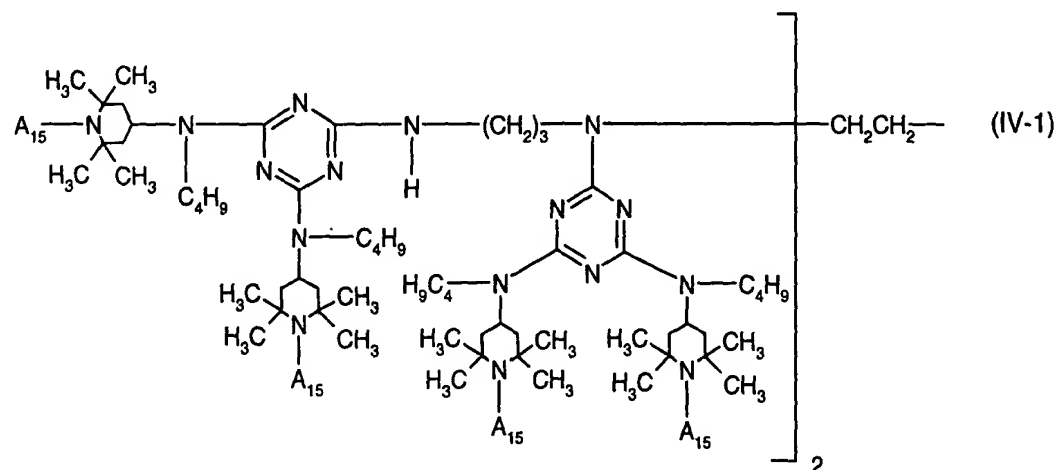
wherein A_6 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl and n_1 is a number from 2 to 25;

component b) is a compound of the formula (III-1)



wherein n_2 is a number from 2 to 25; and

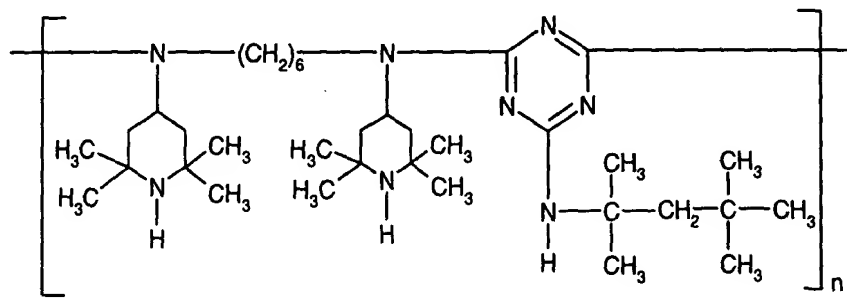
component c) is at least one compound of the formula (IV-1)



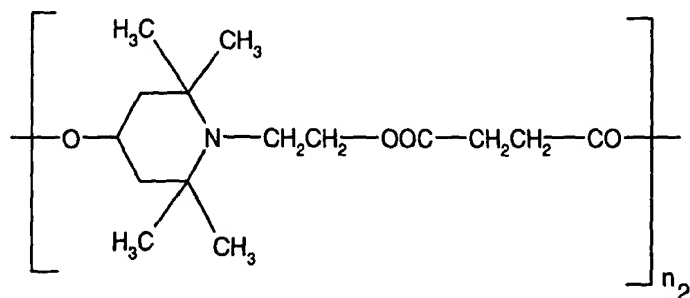
wherein A_{15} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

More detailed, the composition according to the present invention contains the components a) and b), or the components a) and c), or the components b) and c).

A composition wherein the stabilizer mixture comprises the compounds



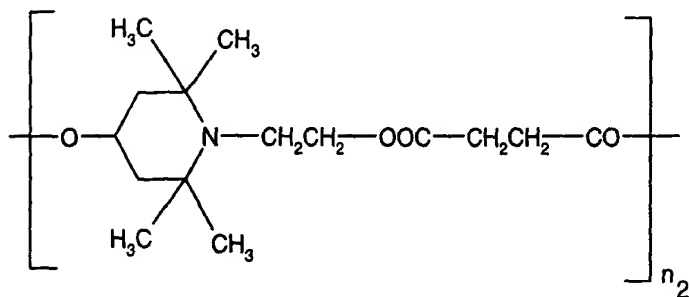
and



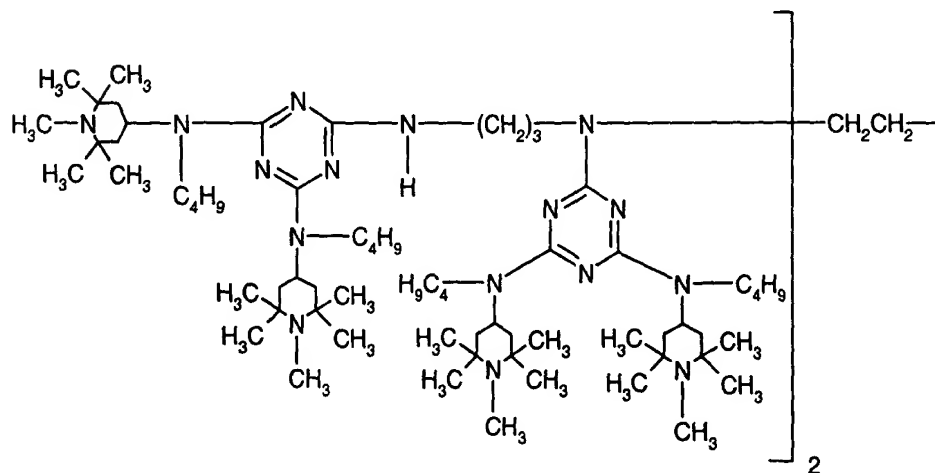
;

with n_1 and n_2 being a number from 2 to 25, is also preferred.

A composition wherein the stabilizer mixture comprises the compounds



and



with n_2 being a number from 2 to 25, is further preferred.

Polyolefins prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst, more detailed a transition metallocene catalyst, are commercially available. They are also known under the name "metallocene polyolefin". One example is [®]Luflexen.

Catalyst systems based on a transition metallocene complex have made it possible to prepare either polymers with a particularly narrow molecular weight distribution or (co)polymers with a particular structure. These systems can be either homogeneous catalyst systems or supported catalysts. More details on the possible catalyst systems can be found, for example, in EP-A-563,917, EP-A-578,838, US-A-4,659,685, US-A-5,240,894 and WO-A-92/333.

Some representative explanations directed to metallocene catalysts and the polyolefins prepared by polymerization over those catalysts are given in the following.

The olefins which can be polymerized over a metallocene catalyst are in particular ethylene and α -olefins, for example propylene, 1-butene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 5-methyl-1-hexene, isohexene, isooctene, cycloolefins (cyclopentadiene (monomeric or dimeric) or norbornene) or styrene, and mixtures of olefins, for example ethylene-propylene or propylene mixed with minor amounts of higher α -olefins. In this case preference is given to C_2 - or C_3 olefins and their copolymers.

The transition metallocene catalysts are, for example, compounds of the formula (A)



in which a is 1 or 2 and n and q independently of one another are each an integer from 1 to 4, M is the cation of a monovalent to tetravalent metal from group IVb to VIIb, VIII or Ib of the Periodic Table of the Elements, m is an integer corresponding to the valency of L + q, Q is a halogen atom, L is a divalent to heptavalent metal or nonmetal, R_1 is a π -arene and R_2 is a π -arene or the anion of a π -arene. Particularly suitable π -arenes R_1 and R_2 are aromatic groups having 6 to 24 carbon atoms or heteroaromatic groups having 3 to 30 carbon atoms, it being possible for these groups to be substituted one or more times by identical or different monovalent radicals, such as halogen atoms, preferably chlorine or bromine atoms, or

C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy, cyano, C₁-C₈alkylthio, C₂-C₆monocarboxylic acid alkyl ester, phenyl, C₂-C₅alkanoyl or benzoyl groups. These π -arene groups can be monocyclic, fused polycyclic or unfused polycyclic systems, where in the latter systems the rings can be linked directly or via bridging members such as -S- or -O-. R₂ as the anion of a π -arene can be an anion of a π -arene of the abovementioned type, for example the indenyl anion and, in particular, the cyclopentadienyl anion, it being possible for these anions too to be substituted one or more times by identical or different monovalent radicals such as C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₆monocarboxylic acid alkyl ester, cyano, C₂-C₅alkanoyl or benzoyl groups.

The alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, monocarboxylic acid alkyl ester and alkanoyl substituents can be straight-chain or branched. Typical alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, monocarboxylic acid alkyl ester and alkanoyl substituents are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl, n-hexyl and n-octyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, isopropoxy, n-butoxy, n-hexyloxy and n-octyloxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n-propylthio, isopropylthio, n-butylthio, n-pentylthio and n-hexylthio, carboxylic acid methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and n-pentyl ester, and acetyl, propionyl, butyryl and valeroyl. Among these, preference is given to alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio and monocarboxylic acid alkyl ester groups having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, in particular 1 or 2 carbon atoms, in the alkyl moieties, and to alkanoyl groups having 2 or 3 carbon atoms. Preferred substituted π -arenes or anions of substituted π -arenes are those containing one or two of the abovementioned substituents, especially chlorine or bromine atoms, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, cyano, carboxylic acid methyl or ethyl ester groups and acetyl groups.

The π -arenes R₁ and R₂ can be identical or different. Suitable heteroaromatic π -arenes are systems containing S, N and/or O atoms. Heteroaromatic π -arenes containing S and/or O atoms are preferred.

Examples of suitable π -arenes are benzene, toluene, xylenes, ethylbenzene, methoxybenzene, ethoxybenzene, dimethoxybenzene, p-chlorotoluene, chlorobenzene, bromobenzene, dichlorobenzene, acetylbenzene, trimethylbenzene, trimethoxybenzene, naphthalene, 1,2-dihydronaphthalene, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene, methylnaphthalenes, methoxynaphthalenes, ethoxynaphthalenes, chloronaphthalenes, bromonaphthalenes, biphenyl, indene, biphenylene, fluorene, phenanthrene, anthracene, 9,10-dihydroanthracene, triphenylene, pyrene, naphthacene, coronene, thiophene, chromene, xanthene,

thioxanthene, benzothiophene, naphthothiophene, thianthrene, diphenylene oxide, diphenylene sulfide, acridine and carbazole.

If a is 2, R_2 is preferably in each case the anion of a π -arene and M is in each case the same metal atom.

Examples of anions of substituted π -arenes are the anions of methyl-, ethyl-, n -propyl- and n -butylcyclopentadiene, the anions of dimethylcyclopentadiene, of cyclopentadienecarboxylic acid methyl and ethyl ester, and also of acetylcyclopentadiene, propionylcyclopentadiene, cyanocyclopentadiene and benzoylcyclopentadiene. Preferred anions are the anion of unsubstituted indene and, in particular, that of unsubstituted cyclopentadiene.

Preferably, a is 1, R_2 is benzene, toluene, xylene, methoxybenzene, chlorobenzene, p -chlorotoluene, naphthalene, methylnaphthalene, chloronaphthalene, methoxynaphthalene, biphenyl, indene, pyrene or diphenylene sulfide and R_2 is the anion of cyclopentadiene, acetylcyclopentadiene or indene or is benzene, toluene, xylene, trimethylbenzene, naphthalene or methylnaphthalene.

Particularly preferred complexes of the formula (A) are those in which a is 1, R_1 is η^6 -pyrene or η^6 -naphthalene and R_2 is the anion of η^5 -cyclopentadiene, n is preferably 1 or 2, in particular 1, and q is preferably 1. M is for example Ti^{2+} , Ri^{3+} , Ti^{4+} , Zr^+ , Zr^{2+} , Zr^{3+} , Zr^{4+} , Hf^+ , Hf^{2+} , Hf^{3+} , Hf^{4+} , Nb^+ , Nb^{2+} , Nb^{3+} , Cr^+ , Mo^+ , Mo^{2+} , W^+ , W^{2+} , Mn^+ , Mn^{2+} , Re^+ , Fe^{2+} , Co^{2+} , Co^{3+} , Ni^{2+} or Cu^{2+} . M is preferably a titanium, zirconium or hafnium cation, especially a titanium or zirconium cation, and with particular preference is Ti^{4+} or Zr^{4+} .

Examples of suitable metals or nonmetals L are Sb, Fe, Sn, Bi, Al, Ga, In, Ti, Zr, Sc, V, Cr, Mn and Cu; lanthanides such as Ce, Pr and Nd or actinides such as Th, Pa, U or Np. Particularly suitable nonmetals are B, P and As. L is preferably P, As, B or Sb, with P being particularly preferred.

Complex anions $[Lq_m]^{q-}$ are, for example, BF_4^- , PF_6^- , AsF_6^- , SbF_6^- , $FeCl_4^-$, $SnCl_6^-$, $SbCl_6^-$ and $BiCl_6^-$. The particularly preferred complex anions are SbF_6^- , BF_4^- , AsF_6^- and PF_6^- .

The compounds of the formula (A) can be prepared by methods known per se, for example by reacting a compound of the formula (B)



with a salt of an anion



in which a, m, n, q, R₁, R₂, M and L are as defined under the formula (A) and [X]^{q-} is an anion which is different from [LQ_m]^{q-}.

Both the compounds of the formula (B) and the compounds of the formula (C)



in which a and M are as defined above and R'₁ is a π-arene or the anion of a π-arene and R₂ is an anion of a π-arene, can be prepared by reacting identical or different π-arenes in the presence of a Lewis acid with a salt of a metal from group IVb to VIIb, VIII or Ib of the Periodic Table. The compounds of the formulae (A), (B) and (C) are also suitable for carrying out a ligand exchange, by reacting these compounds in the presence of a Lewis acid with a π-arene which is different from R₁ and/or R₂, or R'₁. In such cases, n is preferably 2 and particularly preferably 1.

Compounds of the formula (A) in which L is a metal can be prepared by reacting identical or different π-arenes in the presence of a Lewis acid with a suitable salt of a metal from group IVb to VIIb, VIII or Ib of the Periodic Table of the Elements, for example a titanium, zirconium, chromium, manganese or, in particular, iron salt. Finally, compounds of the formula (A) can also be converted in a customary manner, by anion exchange, into complexes of the formula (A) with a different anion [LQ_m]^{q-}.

In a preferred embodiment the starting materials employed are uncharged π-complexes of the formula (C), for example ferrocene or bis(η⁵-indenyl)iron(II), and these starting materials are converted by ligand exchange into a complex of the formula (B), which is subsequently reacted with a salt of an anion [LQ_m]^{q-}. The complex of the formula (B) obtained as intermediate in this procedure is normally not isolated.

Examples of suitable salts of anions $[LQ_m]^{q-}$ are alkali metal, alkaline earth metal or ammonium salts. It is preferred to use alkali metal salts, and particularly preferably sodium salts and potassium salts.

Examples of suitable Lewis acids for the reactions described above are $AlCl_3$, $AlBr_3$, BF_3 , $SnCl_4$ and $TiCl_4$, preferably $AlCl_3$. It can be advantageous to carry out the ligand exchange reaction with the addition of a reducing agent, for example aluminium or magnesium, to the reaction mixture, or to add a reducing agent, for example Na_2SO_3 or ascorbic acid, to the reaction mixture subsequently. Aluminium is the preferred reducing agent. The ligand exchange reactions are expediently carried out in an inert organic solvent. Examples of suitable solvents are aliphatic or cycloaliphatic hydrocarbons such as octane, nonane, decane and cyclohexane. If desired, an excess of π -arene can also be employed as solvent.

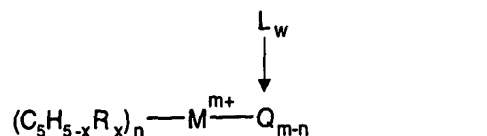
The reaction of the compounds of the formula (B) with a salt of an anion $[LQ_m]^{q-}$ and the anion exchange conversion of compounds of the formula (A) are expediently carried out in an aqueous or aqueous alcoholic medium, for example in mixtures of water and methanol or ethanol. The salts of the anions $[LQ_m]^{q-}$ are employed at least in stoichiometric amounts but preferably in excess.

For the polymerization, it is additionally possible to use a metallocene catalyst consisting of two principal components (A-1 and A-2).

Of these, **component A-1** is a metallocene compound. It is possible in principle to employ any metallocene regardless of its structure and composition. The metallocenes can be either bridged or unbridged, and can have identical or different ligands. The compounds involved are those of the metals of groups IVb, Vb or VIb of the Periodic Table, for example compounds of titanium, zirconium, hafnium, vanadium, niobium, tantalum, chromium, molybdenum and tungsten, preferably of zirconium, hafnium and titanium, especially zirconium.

Such metallocenes are known and are described, for example, in the following documents: EP-A-336,127, EP-A-336,128, EP-A-387,690, EP-A-387,691, EP-A-302,424, EP-A-129,368, EP-A-320,762, EP-A-284,707, EP-A-316,155, EP-A-351,392, US-A-5,017,714, J. Organomet, Chem., 342 (1988) 21.

Metallocenes worthy of emphasis are those of the general structure



in which

M^{m+} is an m-valent cation of a metal of groups IVb, V or VIb of the Periodic Table, for example titanium, zirconium, hafnium, vanadium, niobium, tantalum, chromium, molybdenum or tungsten, preferably zirconium, hafnium or titanium, especially zirconium;

$(\text{C}_5\text{H}_{5-x}\text{R}_x)$ is a cyclopentadienyl ring substituted with from zero to five substituents R;

x is zero, one, two, three, four or five;

n is one or two;

each R, independently of the others, is a C_1 - C_{20} hydrocarbon radical, a C_1 - C_{20} hydrocarbon radical substituted by one or more halogen atoms, a metalloid-substituted C_1 - C_{20} hydrocarbon radical or halogen; or two adjacent radicals R are a C_4 - C_{20} ring;

or, if n is 1, alternatively a radical $\text{B}_y\text{-JR}'_{z+y}$, in which

J is an element of group Va of the Periodic Table of coordination number 3 or an element of group VIA of the Periodic Table of coordination number 2, preferably N, P, O or S;

each R', independently of the others, is a C_1 - C_{20} hydrocarbon radical or a C_1 - C_{20} hydrocarbon radical which is substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

z is the coordination number of the element J;

y is zero or one;

B, if y is one, is a bridging member comprising an element of group IVA or VA of the Periodic Table, for example C_1 - C_{20} alkylene, a DiC_1 - C_{20} alkyl-, C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl- or DiC_6 - C_{20} arylsilicon or germanium radical or an alkyl- or aryl-phosphine or amine radical;

or R, if n is two, is a group selected from $-\text{M}_2(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-$, $-\text{M}_2(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-\text{M}_2(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-\text{C}(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-$, $-\text{O}-\text{M}_2(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-\text{O}-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-$, $-\text{O}-\text{M}_2(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})-\text{M}_2(\text{R}_{10})(\text{R}_{11})$, $-\text{B}(\text{R}_{10})-$, $-\text{Al}(\text{R}_{10})-$, $-\text{Ge}-$, $-\text{Sn}-$, $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{S}(\text{O})-$, $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}_{10})-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-\text{P}(\text{R}_{10})-$ or $-\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{R}_{10})-$;

in which

R_{10} and R_{11} are identical or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} fluoroalkyl, C_6 - C_{10} aryl, C_6 - C_{10} fluoroaryl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl,

C_7 - C_{40} arylalkyl, C_8 - C_{40} arylalkenyl or C_7 - C_{40} alkylaryl group or R_{10} and R_{11} , in each case with the atoms which join them, form a ring, and

M_2 is silicon, germanium or tin,

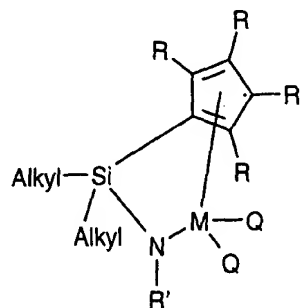
each Q, independently of the others, is hydrogen, a C_1 - C_{50} hydrocarbon radical, a C_1 - C_{50} hydrocarbon radical which is substituted with one or more electron-withdrawing groups, for example halogen or alkoxy, or a metalloid-substituted C_1 - C_{50} hydrocarbon radical, the metalloid being an element of group IVA of the Periodic Table, with the exception of hydrocarbon radicals of the formula $(C_5H_{5-x}R_x)$; or two radicals Q are alkylidene, olefin, acetylene or a cyclometallated hydrocarbon radical;

L is a neutral Lewis base, for example diethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dimethylaniline, aniline, trimethylphosphine or n-butylamine; and

w is from 0 to 3.

The term metalloid refers, for example, to the elements silicon, germanium, tin and lead.

In this context, a preferred type of metallocene corresponds to the following structure:

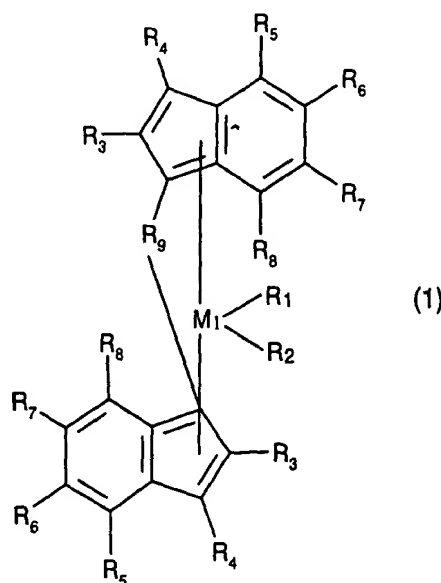


in which M is Ti or Zr and the other substituents are as defined

above.

Further details on metallocenes of the above type can also be found in WO-A-92/333.

For the isospecific polymerization of substituted olefins, for example propene, butene and styrene, and their copolymerization, including that with other olefins, the metallocenes which are of interest, especially zirconocenes, are those which carry indenyl derivatives as ligands. These are preferably the compounds of the following formula (1)



in which

M_1 is a metal of group IVb, Vb or VIb of the Periodic Table;

R_1 and R_2 are identical or different and are a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, C_6 - C_{10} aryl, C_6 - C_{10} aryloxy, C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl, C_7 - C_{40} arylalkyl, C_7 - C_{40} alkylaryl, C_8 - C_{40} arylalkenyl or OH group or a halogen atom, and the radicals R_3 are identical or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl group which can be halogenated, a C_6 - C_{10} aryl group, or a radical $-NR_2$, $-SR$, $-OSiR_3$, $-SiR_3$ or PR_2 , in which R is a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl group or a C_6 - C_{10} aryl group.

R_4 to R_8 are as defined for R_3 , or adjacent radicals R_4 to R_8 form, with the atoms connecting them, an aromatic or aliphatic ring,

R_9 is a group selected from $-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-C(R_{10})(R_{11})-C(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-O-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-O-$, $-C(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-O-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-C(R_{10})(R_{11})-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-B(R_{10})-$, $-Al(R_{10})-$, $-Ge-$, $-Sn-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-S(O)-$, $-S(O)_2-$, $-N(R_{10})-$, $-C(O)-$, $-P(R_{10})-$ or $-P(O)(R_{10})-$; in which

R_{10} and R_{11} are identical or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} fluoroalkyl, C_6 - C_{10} aryl, C_6 - C_{10} fluoroaryl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl, C_7 - C_{40} arylalkyl, C_8 - C_{40} arylalkenyl or C_7 - C_{40} alkylaryl group or R_{10} and R_{11} , in each case with the atoms connecting them, form a ring, and

M_2 is silicon, germanium or tin.

The 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindenyl analogues corresponding to the compounds of the formula (1) are also of importance.

Preferably, in formula (1),

M₁ is zirconium,

R₁ and R₂ are identical and are methyl or chlorine, especially chlorine,

R₃ to R₈ are hydrogen or C₁-C₄alkyl,

R₉ is -Si(R₁₀)(R₁₁)-, -C(R₁₀)(R₁₁)- or -C(R₁₀)(R₁₁)-C(R₁₀)(R₁₁)- and

R₁₀ and R₁₁ are identical or different and are C₁-C₄alkyl or C₆-C₁₀aryl. In particular, R₁₀ and R₁₁ are identical or different and are methyl or phenyl.

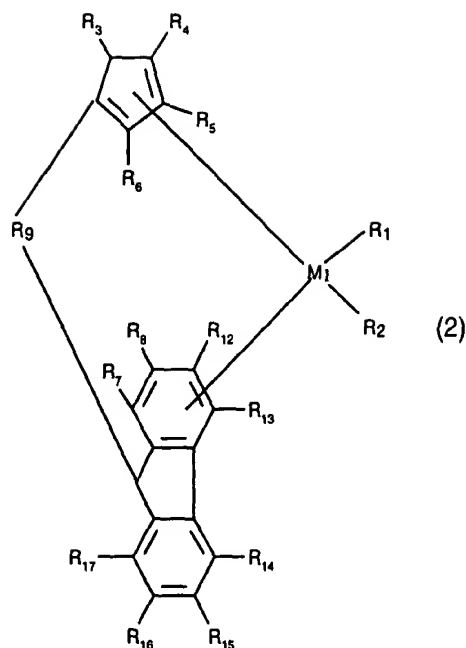
The indenyl and/or tetrahydroindenyl ligands in formula (1) are preferably substituted in the 2, 2,4, 4,7, 2,6, 2,4,6, 2,5,6, 2,4,5,6 or 2,4,5,6,7 positions, in particular in the 2,4,6 positions. The substituents are preferably a C₁-C₄alkyl group such as methyl, ethyl or isopropyl. The 2 position is preferably substituted by methyl.

Also of particular importance are those compounds of the formula (1) in which the substituents in positions 4 and 5 of the indenyl radicals (R₅ and R₆) form, together with the atoms connecting them, a benzene ring. This fused ring system can likewise be substituted by radicals having the definitions of R₃-R₈. An example of such compounds I is dimethylsilanediylbis(2-methyl-4,5-benzindenyl)zirconium dichloride.

The metallocenes of the formula (1) are particularly suitable for the preparation of high molecular weight polyolefins of high stereoregularity.

Also of particular importance are compounds of the formula (1) with (substituted) phenyl or naphthyl substituted in position 4.

For the syndiospecific polymerization of substituted olefins, for example propene, butene and styrene, and their copolymerization, including that with other olefins, the metallocenes of interest are those of the formula (2):



in which

M_1 is a metal of group IVb, Vb or VIb of the Periodic Table;

R_1 and R_2 are identical or different and are a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, C_6 - C_{10} aryl, C_6 - C_{10} aryloxy, C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl, C_7 - C_{40} arylalkyl, C_7 - C_{40} alkylaryl, C_8 - C_{40} arylalkenyl or OH group or a halogen atom, and the radicals R_3 are identical or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl group which can be halogenated, a C_6 - C_{10} aryl group, or a radical $-NR_2$, $-SR$, $-OSiR_3$, $-SiR_3$ or PR_2 , in which R is a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl group or a C_6 - C_{10} aryl group.

R_4 to R_8 are as defined for R_3 , or adjacent radicals R_4 to R_8 form, with the atoms connecting them, an aromatic or aliphatic ring,

R_9 is a group selected from $-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-C(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $C(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-O-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-O-$, $-C(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-O-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-C(R_{10})(R_{11})-M_2(R_{10})(R_{11})-$, $-B(R_{10})-$, $-Al(R_{10})-$, $-Ge-$, $-Sn-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-S(O)-$, $-S(O)_2-$, $-N(R_{10})-$, $-C(O)-$, $-P(R_{10})-$ or $-P(O)(R_{10})-$; in which

R_{10} and R_{11} are identical or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} fluoroalkyl, C_6 - C_{10} aryl, C_6 - C_{10} fluoroaryl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl, C_7 - C_{40} arylalkyl, C_8 - C_{40} arylalkenyl or C_7 - C_{40} alkylaryl group or R_{10} and R_{11} , in each case with the atoms connecting them, form a ring, and

M_2 is silicon, germanium or tin; and

R_{12} to R_{17} are as defined for R_3 .

Examples of metallocenes which can be used for the polymerization are the following compounds:

biscyclopentadienylzirconium dichloride, biscyclopentadienylzirconiumdimethyl, biscyclopentadienylzirconiumdiphenyl, biscyclopentadienylzirconiumdibenzyl, biscyclopentadienylzirconiumbistrimethylsilyl, bis(methylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, bis(1,2-dimethylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, bis(1,3-dimethylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, bis(1,2,4-trimethylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, bis(1,2,3-trimethylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, bis(pentamethylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, bisindenylzirconium dichloride, bis(tetrahydroindenyl)zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-tetrahydroindenylzirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-(2-methyltetrahydroindenyl)zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-(2,3,5-trimethylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-(2,4-dimethylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-indenylzirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-indenylzirconiumdimethyl, dimethylgermylbis-1-indenylzirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-(2-methylindenyl)zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-(2-methyl-4-isopropylindenyl)zirconium dichloride, phenylmethylsilylbis-1-(2-methylindenyl)-zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis-1-(2-methyl-4-ethylindenyl)zirconium dichloride, ethylenebis-1-(4,7-dimethylindenyl)zirconium dichloride, phenyl(methyl)silylbis-1-indenyl-zirconium dichloride, phenyl(vinyl)silylbis-1-indenylzirconium dichloride, diphenylsilylbis-1-indenylzirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis(1-(2-methyl-4-tert-butylindenyl))zirconium dichloride, methylphenylsilylbis(1-(2-methyl-4-isopropylindenyl))zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis(1-(2-ethyl-4-methylindenyl))zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis(1-(2,4-dimethylindenyl))zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis(1-(2-methyl-4-ethylindenyl))-zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilylbis(2-methyl-4,6-diisopropylindenyl)zirconium di-chloride, dimethylsilylbis(2,4,6-trimethylindenyl)zirconium dichloride, methylphenylsilyl-bis(2-methyl-4,6-diisopropylindenyl)zirconium dichloride, 1,2-ethanediylbis(2-methyl-4,6-diisopropylindenyl)zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilyl(9-fluorenyl)(cyclopentadienyl)-zirconium dichloride, diphenylsilyl(9-fluorenyl)(cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, diphenylmethylene(9-fluorenyl)cyclopentadienylzirconium dichloride, isopropylidene(9-fluorenyl)cyclopentadienylzirconium dichloride, phenylmethylmethylene(9-fluorenyl)-cyclopentadienylzirconium dichloride, isopropylidene(9-fluorenyl)(1-(3-isopropyl)cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, isopropylidene(9-fluorenyl)(1-(3-methyl)cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, diphenylmethylene(9-fluorenyl)(1-(3-methyl)cyclopenta-

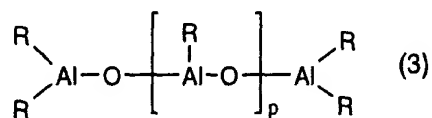
dienyl)zirconium dichloride, methylphenylmethylene(9-fluorenyl)(1-(3-methyl)cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, dimethylsilyl(9-fluorenyl)-(1-(3-methyl)cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, diphenylsilyl(9-fluorenyl)-(1-(3-methyl)cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride, diphenylmethylene(9-fluorenyl)(1-(3-tert-butyl)cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride and isopropylidene(9-fluorenyl)(1-(3-tert-butyl)cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dichloride.

In the preparation of the catalyst, chiral metallocenes are preferably employed as a racemate. However, it is also possible to use the pure R or S form. Using these pure stereoisomeric forms, optically active polymer can be prepared. However, the meso form of the metallocenes should be separated off, since the polymerization-active centre (the metal atom) in these compounds is no longer chiral, owing to mirror symmetry at the central metal, and is therefore unable to produce highly tactic polymer. If the meso form is not separated off, atactic polymer is produced in addition to isotactic or syndiotactic polymers. For certain applications, for example flexible mouldings, or for the preparation of polyethylene grades, this may be entirely desirable. The stereoisomers are separated by methods known from the literature.

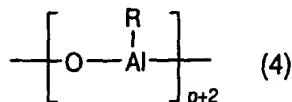
As **component A-2**, examples of suitable compounds are the following.

a) Aluminoxanes

The aluminoxane used is preferably a compound of the formula (3)



for the linear type and/or of the formula (4)



for the cyclic type, in which formulae (3) and (4) the radicals R can be identical or different and are a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, a C_6 - C_{18} aryl group, benzyl or hydrogen, and p is an integer from 2 to 50, preferably from 10 to 35.

The radicals R are preferably identical and are methyl, isobutyl, n-butyl, phenyl or benzyl, particularly preferably methyl.

Where the radicals R are different, they are preferably methyl and hydrogen, methyl and isobutyl or methyl and n-butyl, with the content of hydrogen or isobutyl or n-butyl preferably being 0.01-40 % (number of radicals R).

The aluminoxane can be prepared by known methods in various ways. One of the methods, for example, is the reaction of an aluminium hydrocarbon compound and/or a hydridoaluminium-hydrocarbon compound with water (in gaseous, solid or liquid form or else in bound form, for example as water of crystallization) in an inert solvent (for example toluene). To prepare an aluminoxane with different alkyl groups R, two different aluminium trialkyls ($AlR_3 + AlR'_3$), in accordance with the desired composition and reactivity, are reacted with water (cf. S. Pasykiewicz, Polyhedron 9 (1990) 429 and EP-A-302,424).

The precise structure of the aluminoxanes of the formulae (3) and (4) is unknown.

Regardless of the manner of their preparation, all aluminoxane solutions share the feature of a varying content of unreacted aluminium starting compound, which is present in free form or as an adduct.

b) Ion exchange compounds

Ion exchange compounds are compounds comprising a cation, which reacts irreversibly with a ligand of component A-1, and a noncoordinating anion, which is bulky, labile and chemically inert. Combining components A-1 and A-2 produces an ion pair formed from the cation of A-2 and a ligand of A-1. Examples of cations of component A-2 are Brønsted acids, such as ammonium ions, or reducible Lewis acids, such as Ag^+ or ferrocene ions.

The aluminoxane which can be used as component A-2 can also be produced in the course of the preparation of a supported catalyst from trimethylaluminium.

In addition to homogeneous catalyst systems, the metallocenes can also be used as heterogeneous catalysts. In this case the catalyst is applied to an inorganic or organic carrier by methods known to the person skilled in the art from the literature. Inorganic carrier materials are preferably silica gels; further details on this can be found, for example, in US-A-5,240,894.

Examples of organic carrier materials are microporous polymeric carriers which are obtainable commercially (e.g. the [®]Accurel grades from AKZO, such as [®]Accurel-PE, [®]Accurel-PP, [®]Accurel-PA-6 or [®]Accurel-PA-12 with a voids content of about 75 % by volume). The pore size of the [®]Accurel materials is 0.5-5 μm (PP), 1.0-5 μm (HDPE), or 0.5-3 μm (PA-6 and PA-12).

The microporous polymeric carrier is advantageously dried beforehand, for example by treatment with aluminium alkyl solutions, then washed and rendered inert under a protective gas.

The preferred procedure for this is first to react the aluminoxane in an appropriate solvent, for example pentane, hexane, heptane, toluene or dichloromethane, with at least one metallocene, by intensive mixing, for example by stirring. The reaction temperature is preferably from -20 to +120°C, in particular 15-40°C. The molar ratio of aluminium to transition metal M of the metallocene is preferably between 10:1 and 10,000:1, in particular between 100:1 and 2000:1. The reaction time is in general between 5 and 120 minutes, preferably 10-30 minutes. The reaction is preferably operated with an aluminium concentration of more than 0.01 mol/litre, in particular more than 0.5 mol/litre. The reaction is carried out under inert conditions.

In place of the aluminoxane it is also possible to use a mixture of an aluminoxane with a further aluminium alkyl compound, for example trimethyl-, triethyl- or triisobutylaluminium, for the described reaction with the metallocene.

After the reaction has taken place it is possible, for example, to remove part of the solvent under vacuum or, following concentration, to replace the solvent by a different solvent. The solution thus prepared is reacted in a suitable manner with the microporous polymeric

carrier. In this context, the carrier is added at least in an amount whose total pore volume is able to take up the solution from the previous reaction. The reaction referred to in the second sentence of this paragraph is preferably carried out at temperatures of between -20 and +20°C, in particular 15-40°C, by intense mixing, for example by stirring or treatment with ultrasound. Thorough homogenization should be accomplished. In this context, the exchange of the inert gas of the pore volume can be accelerated by brief evacuation, for example.

In principle, the supported catalyst can also be prepared in a one-pot reaction, i.e. all three starting components are reacted with one another simultaneously in an appropriate solvent/suspension medium. In this context, the amount of the polymeric carrier should preferably be calculated such that it is able to take up the entire volume of liquid.

The catalyst can be metered into the polymerization system in suspended form, in an inert suspension medium such as, for example, heptane, n-decane, hexane or diesel oil, or else in dry form, possibly after removal of the remaining solvent by a drying step carried out, for example, under vacuum.

The catalyst can advantageously be prepolymerized in the gaseous phase, in the liquid monomer or in suspension in which case it is possible to omit the addition of a further organoaluminium compound.

Polymerization with these catalysts can be carried out by known methods in liquid or gaseous phase. The liquid phase may, for example, be an aliphatic hydrocarbon or the liquid monomer itself. The metallocene catalysts can also be employed as a mixture with other types of catalyst, for example Ziegler or Phillips catalysts. At the end of the polymerization the catalyst is destroyed, for example by adding water (vapour), wet nitrogen, carbon dioxide or alcohol.

Metallocene polyolefins are further described in "New Trends in Polyolefin Catalysts and Influence on Polymer Stability" (Rolf Mülhaupt; the Twelfth Annual International Conference on Advances in the Stabilization and Controlled Degradation of Polymers, held in Luzern, Switzerland, 21-23 May 1990, pages 181 to 196 of the conference papers).

According to a preferred embodiment of the present invention the polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst is polyethylene or polypropylene.

A further preferred embodiment of the present invention relates to a composition which additionally contains a polyolefin not prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst.

Such polyolefins are for example prepared

- a) by radical polymerization (normally under high pressure and at elevated temperature); or
- b) by catalytic polymerization over a Phillips or Ziegler (-Natta) catalyst.

Low density polyethylene (LDPE; prepared by radical polymerization), linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE; prepared by catalytic polymerization over a Ziegler (-Natta) catalyst) and high density polyethylene (HDPE; prepared by catalytic polymerization over a Phillips catalyst) are particularly preferred.

The weight ratio between the polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst to the polyolefin not prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst is for example 1:10 to 10:1.

A further embodiment of this invention is a method for stabilizing a polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst, which comprises incorporating into said polyolefin a stabilizer mixture as defined above.

The two components of the stabilizer mixture can be used in various proportions depending on the nature of the polyolefin to be stabilized, on the end use and on the presence of other additives.

In general, it is appropriate to use, for example, 0.01 to 5 % by weight of each of the two components of the stabilizer mixture, relative to the weight of the polyolefin to be stabilized, preferably 0.01 to 2 %, in particular 0.025 to 1 %.

The stabilizer mixture or the individual components can be incorporated into the polyolefin by known methods, for example by dry mixing in the form of powder, or wet mixing in the form of solutions or suspensions or also in the form of a masterbatch which contains the individual components in a concentration of 2.5 to 25 % by weight; in such operations, the polyolefin can be used in the form of powder, granules, solutions, suspensions or even in the form of latices.

The stabilizer mixture or the individual components can be added before, during or after the polymerization or crosslinking. Furthermore, they can be incorporated in the polyolefin in the pure form or encapsulated in waxes, oils or polymers.

Before incorporation, the individual components of the stabilizer mixture can also be mixed with one another in a melt or can be extruded with one another.

The polyolefin stabilized with the stabilizer mixture can be used for the production of mouldings, films, tapes, monofilaments, fibres, surface coatings and the like.

If desired, other conventional additives for polyolefins, such as antioxidants, UV absorbers, nickel stabilizers, pigments, fillers, plasticizers, corrosion inhibitors and metal deactivators, can be added to the polyolefin containing the stabilizer mixture described above.

Examples of such conventional additives are listed in the following.

1. Antioxidants

1.1. Alkylated monophenols, for example 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol, 2-tert-butyl-4,6-dimethylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-ethylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-n-butylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-isobutylphenol, 2,6-dicyclopentyl-4-methylphenol, 2-(α -methylcyclohexyl)-4,6-dimethylphenol, 2,6-dioctadecyl-4-methylphenol, 2,4,6-tricyclohexylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxymethylphenol, nonylphenols which are linear or branched in the side chains, for example, 2,6-di-nonyl-4-methylphenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methylundec-1'-yl)phenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methylheptadec-1'-yl)phenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltridec-1'-yl)phenol and mixtures thereof.

1.2. Alkylthiomethylphenols, for example 2,4-dioctylthiomethyl-6-tert-butylphenol, 2,4-dioctylthiomethyl-6-methylphenol, 2,4-dioctylthiomethyl-6-ethylphenol, 2,6-di-dodecylthiomethyl-4-nonylphenol.

1.3. Hydroquinones and alkylated hydroquinones, for example 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenol, 2,5-di-tert-butylhydroquinone, 2,5-di-tert-amylhydroquinone, 2,6-diphenyl-4-octadecyloxyphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butylhydroquinone, 2,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanisole, 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanisole, 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl stearate, bis-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl) adipate.

1.4. Tocopherols, for example α -tocopherol, β -tocopherol, γ -tocopherol, δ -tocopherol and mixtures thereof (Vitamin E).

1.5. Hydroxylated thiodiphenyl ethers, for example 2,2'-thiobis(6-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol), 2,2'-thiobis(4-octylphenol), 4,4'-thiobis(6-tert-butyl-3-methylphenol), 4,4'-thiobis(6-tert-butyl-2-methylphenol), 4,4'-thiobis-(3,6-di-sec-amylphenol), 4,4'-bis(2,6-dimethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)disulfide.

1.6. Alkylidenebisphenols, for example 2,2'-methylenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-ethylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis[4-methyl-6-(α -methylcyclohexyl)phenol], 2,2'-methylenebis(4-methyl-6-cyclohexylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis(6-nonyl-4-methylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-ethylidenebis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-ethylidenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-isobutylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis[6-(α -methylbenzyl)-4-nonylphenol], 2,2'-methylenebis[6-(α , α -dimethylbenzyl)-4-nonylphenol], 4,4'-methylenebis(2,6-di-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-methylenebis(6-tert-butyl-2-methylphenol), 1,1-bis(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)butane, 2,6-bis(3-tert-butyl-5-methyl-2-hydroxybenzyl)-4-methylphenol, 1,1,3-tris(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)butane, 1,1-bis(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)-3-n-dodecylmercaptobutane, ethylene glycol bis[3,3-bis(3'-tert-butyl-4'-hydroxyphenyl)butyrate], bis(3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)dicyclopentadiene, bis[2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-methylbenzyl)-6-tert-butyl-4-methylphenyl]terephthalate, 1,1-bis(3,5-dimethyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 2,2-bis-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propane, 2,2-bis-(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)-4-n-dodecylmercaptobutane, 1,1,5,5-tetra-(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)pentane.

1.7. O-, N- and S-benzyl compounds, for example 3,5,3',5'-tetra-tert-butyl-4,4'-dihydroxydi-benzyl ether, octadecyl-4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethylbenzylmercaptoacetate, tridecyl-4-hydroxy-3,5-di-tert-butylbenzylmercaptoacetate, tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)amine, bis(4-tert-butyl-3-hydroxy-2,6-dimethylbenzyl)dithioterephthalate, bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)sulfide, isooctyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylmercaptoacetate.

1.8. Hydroxybenzylated malonates, for example dioctadecyl-2,2-bis-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-2-hydroxybenzyl)-malonate, di-octadecyl-2-(3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylbenzyl)-malonate, didodecylmercaptoethyl-2,2-bis-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)malonate, bis[4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenyl]-2,2-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)malonate.

1.9. Aromatic hydroxybenzyl compounds, for example 1,3,5-tris-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)-2,4,6-trimethylbenzene, 1,4-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)-2,3,5,6-tetramethylbenzene, 2,4,6-tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)phenol.

1.10. Triazine Compounds, for example 2,4-bis(octylmercapto)-6-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanilino)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-octylmercapto-4,6-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanilino)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-octylmercapto-4,6-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine, 2,4,6-tris-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenoxy)-1,2,3-triazine, 1,3,5-tris-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)isocyanurate, 1,3,5-tris(4-tert-butyl-3-hydroxy-2,6-dimethylbenzyl)isocyanurate, 2,4,6-tris-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylethyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 1,3,5-tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)-hexahydro-1,3,5-triazine, 1,3,5-tris(3,5-dicyclohexyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)isocyanurate.

1.11. Benzylphosphonates, for example dimethyl-2,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonate, diethyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonate, dioctadecyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonate, dioctadecyl-5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-3-methylbenzylphosphonate, the calcium salt of the monoethyl ester of 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonic acid.

1.12. Acylaminophenols, for example 4-hydroxylauranilide, 4-hydroxystearanilide, octyl N-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)carbamate.

1.13. Esters of β -(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid with mono- or polyhydric alcohols, e.g. with methanol, ethanol, n-octanol, i-octanol, octadecanol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propanediol, neopentyl glycol, thiodiethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, pentaerythritol, tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate, N,N'-bis(hydroxyethyl)oxamide, 3-thiaundecanol, 3-thiapentadecanol, trimethylhexanediol, trimethylolpropane, 4-hydroxymethyl-1-phospha-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo[2.2.2]octane.

1.14. Esters of β -(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-3-methylphenyl)propionic acid with mono- or polyhydric alcohols, e.g. with methanol, ethanol, n-octanol, i-octanol, octadecanol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propanediol, neopentyl glycol, thiodiethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, pentaerythritol, tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate, N,N'-bis(hydroxyethyl)oxamide, 3-thiaundecanol, 3-thiapentadecanol, trimethylhexanediol, trimethylolpropane, 4-hydroxymethyl-1-phospha-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo[2.2.2]octane.

1.15. Esters of β -(3,5-dicyclohexyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid with mono- or polyhydric alcohols, e.g. with methanol, ethanol, octanol, octadecanol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propanediol, neopentyl glycol, thiodiethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, pentaerythritol, tris(hydroxyethyl)isocyanurate, N,N'-bis(hydroxyethyl)oxamide, 3-thiaundecanol, 3-thiapentadecanol, trimethylhexanediol, trimethylolpropane, 4-hydroxymethyl-1-phospha-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo[2.2.2]octane.

1.16. Esters of 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid with mono- or polyhydric alcohols, e.g. with methanol, ethanol, octanol, octadecanol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propanediol, neopentyl glycol, thiodiethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, pentaerythritol, tris(hydroxyethyl)isocyanurate, N,N'-bis(hydroxyethyl)oxamide, 3-thiaundecanol, 3-thiapentadecanol, trimethylhexanediol, trimethylolpropane, 4-hydroxymethyl-1-phospha-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo[2.2.2]octane.

1.17. Amides of β -(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid e.g. N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)hexamethylenediamide, N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)trimethylenediamide, N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)hydrazide, N,N'-bis[2-(3-[3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl]propionyloxy)ethyl]oxamide (Nau-gard®XL-1 supplied by Uniroyal).

1.18. Ascorbic acid (vitamin C)

1.19. Aminic antioxidants, for example N,N'-di-isopropyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-di-sec-butyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(1,4-dimethylpentyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(1-ethyl-3-methylpentyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(1-methylheptyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-dicyclohexyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-diphenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(2-naphthyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N-isopropyl-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N-(1,3-dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N-(1-methylheptyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N-cyclohexyl-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, 4-(p-toluenesulfamoyl)diphenylamine, N,N'-dimethyl-N,N'-di-sec-butyl-p-phenylenediamine, diphenylamine, N-allyldiphenylamine, 4-isopropoxydiphenylamine, N-phenyl-1-naphthylamine, N-(4-tert-octylphenyl)-1-naphthylamine, N-phenyl-2-naphthylamine, octylated diphenylamine, for example p,p'-di-tert-octyldiphenylamine, 4-n-butylaminophenol, 4-butyrylaminophenol, 4-nonanoylaminophenol, 4-dodecanoylaminophenol, 4-octadecanoylaminophenol, bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-dimethylaminomethylphenol, 2,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane, 4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane, N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane, 1,2-bis[(2-methylphenyl)amino]ethane, 1,2-bis(phenylamino)propane, (o-tolyl)biguanide, bis[4-(1',3'-dimethylbutyl)phenyl]amine, tert-octylated N-phenyl-1-naphthylamine, a mixture of mono- and dialkylated tert-butyl/tert-octyldiphenylamines, a mixture of mono- and dialkylated nonyldiphenylamines, a mixture of mono- and dialkylated dodecyldiphenylamines, a mixture of mono- and dialkylated isopropyl/isohexyldiphenylamines, a mixture of mono- und dialkylated tert-butyldiphenylamines, 2,3-dihydro-3,3-dimethyl-4H-1,4-benzothiazine, phenothiazine, a mixture of mono- und dialkylated tert-butyl/tert-octylphenothiazines, a mixture of mono- und dialkylated tert-octyl-phenothiazines, N-allylphenothiazin, N,N,N',N'-tetraphenyl-1,4-diaminobut-2-ene, N,N-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperid-4-yl)-hexamethylenediamine, bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperid-4-yl)sebacate, 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one, 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-ol.

2. UV absorbers and light stabilisers

2.1. 2-(2'-Hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazoles, for example 2-(2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)-benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-di-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(5'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(2'-hydroxy-5'-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-di-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)-5-chloro-benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)-5-chloro-benzotriazole, 2-(3'-sec-butyl-5'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(2'-

hydroxy-4'-octyloxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-di-tert-amyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-bis-(α,α -dimethylbenzyl)-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-octyloxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)-5-chloro-benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-5'-[2-(2-ethylhexyloxy)-carbonylethyl]-2'-hydroxyphenyl)-5-chloro-benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-methoxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)-5-chloro-benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-methoxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-octyloxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-5'-[2-(2-ethylhexyloxy)carbonylethyl]-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-dodecyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-isooctyloxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2,2'-methylene-bis[4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)-6-benzotriazole-2-ylphenol]; the transesterification product of 2-[3'-tert-butyl-5'-(2-methoxycarbonylethyl)-2'-hydroxyphenyl]-2H-benzotriazole with polyethylene glycol 300; $\left[R-CH_2CH_2-COO-CH_2CH_2 \right]_2$ where $R = 3'$ -tert-butyl-4'-hydroxy-5'-2H-benzotriazol-2-ylphenyl, 2-[2'-hydroxy-3'-(α,α -dimethylbenzyl)-5'-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)-phenyl]-benzotriazole; 2-[2'-hydroxy-3'-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)-5'-(α,α -dimethylbenzyl)-phenyl]benzotriazole.

2.2. 2-Hydroxybenzophenones, for example the 4-hydroxy, 4-methoxy, 4-octyloxy, 4-decyloxy, 4-dodecyloxy, 4-benzyloxy, 4,2',4'-trihydroxy and 2'-hydroxy-4,4'-dimethoxy derivatives.

2.3. Esters of substituted and unsubstituted benzoic acids, as for example 4-tertbutyl-phenyl salicylate, phenyl salicylate, octylphenyl salicylate, dibenzoyl resorcinol, bis(4-tert-butylbenzoyl) resorcinol, benzoyl resorcinol, 2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, hexadecyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, octadecyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, 2-methyl-4,6-di-tert-butylphenyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate.

2.4. Acrylates, for example ethyl α -cyano- β,β -diphenylacrylate, isooctyl α -cyano- β,β -diphenylacrylate, methyl α -carbomethoxycinnamate, methyl α -cyano- β -methyl-p-methoxy-cinnamate, butyl α -cyano- β -methyl-p-methoxy-cinnamate, methyl α -carbomethoxy-p-methoxycinnamate and N-(β -carbomethoxy- β -cyanovinyl)-2-methylindoline.

2.5. Nickel compounds, for example nickel complexes of 2,2'-thio-bis-[4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenol], such as the 1:1 or 1:2 complex, with or without additional ligands such as n-butylamine, triethanolamine or N-cyclohexyldiethanolamine, nickel dibutyldithiocarbamate,

nickel salts of the monoalkyl esters, e.g. the methyl or ethyl ester, of 4-hydroxy-3,5-di-tert-butylbenzylphosphonic acid, nickel complexes of ketoximes, e.g. of 2-hydroxy-4-methylphenyl undecylketoxime, nickel complexes of 1-phenyl-4-lauroyl-5-hydroxypyrazole, with or without additional ligands.

2.6. Oxamides, for example 4,4'-dioctyloxyoxanilide, 2,2'-diethoxyoxanilide, 2,2'-dioctyloxy-5,5'-di-tert-butoxanilide, 2,2'-didodecyloxy-5,5'-di-tert-butoxanilide, 2-ethoxy-2'-ethyloxanilide, N,N'-bis(3-dimethylaminopropyl)oxamide, 2-ethoxy-5-tert-butyl-2'-ethoxanilide and its mixture with 2-ethoxy-2'-ethyl-5,4'-di-tert-butoxanilide, mixtures of o- and p-methoxy-disubstituted oxanilides and mixtures of o- and p-ethoxy-disubstituted oxanilides.

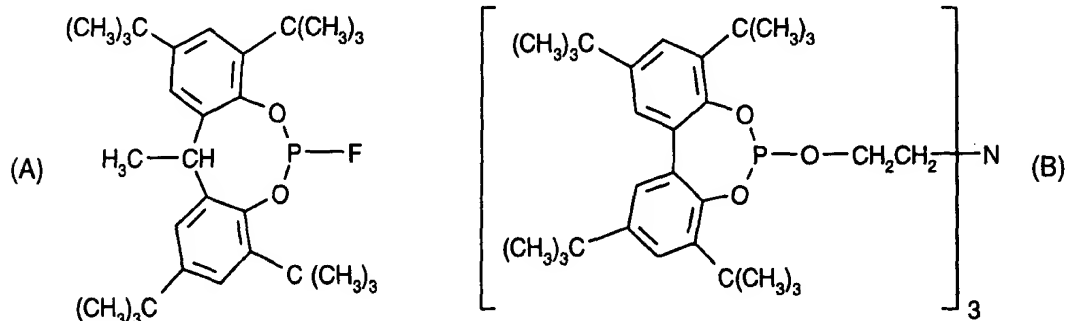
2.7. 2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazines, for example 2,4,6-tris(2-hydroxy-4-octyloxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-octyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2,4-bis(2-hydroxy-4-propyloxyphenyl)-6-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-octyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(4-methylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-dodecyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-tridecyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[2-hydroxy-4-(2-hydroxy-3-butyloxy-propoxy)phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[2-hydroxy-4-(2-hydroxy-3-octyloxy-propyloxy)phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[4-(dodecyloxy/tridecyloxy-2-hydroxypropoxy)-2-hydroxy-phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[2-hydroxy-4-(2-hydroxy-3-dodecyloxy-propoxy)phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-hexyloxy)phenyl-4,6-diphenyl-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4,6-diphenyl-1,3,5-triazine, 2,4,6-tris[2-hydroxy-4-(3-butoxy-2-hydroxy-propoxy)phenyl]-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[2-hydroxy-4-[3-(2-ethylhexyl-1-oxy)-2-hydroxypropyloxy]phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine.

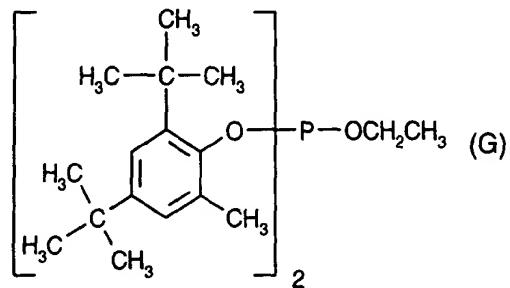
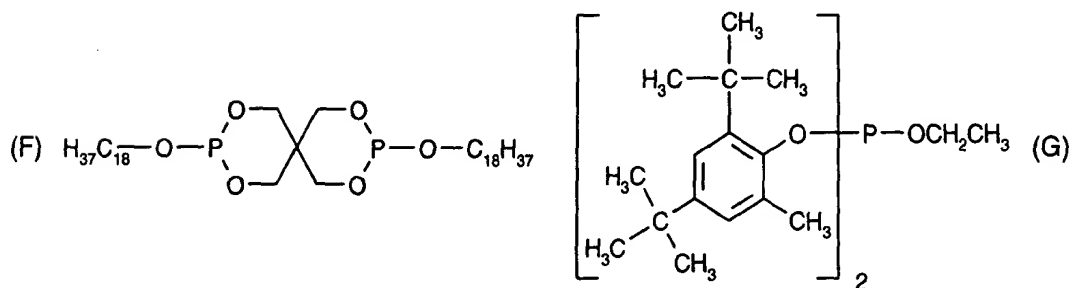
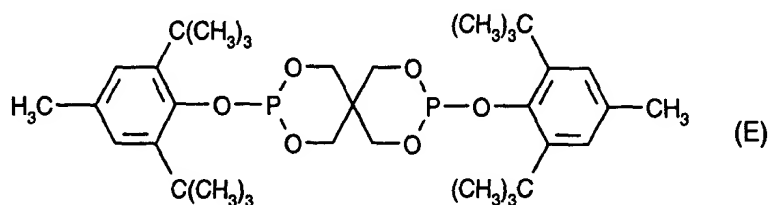
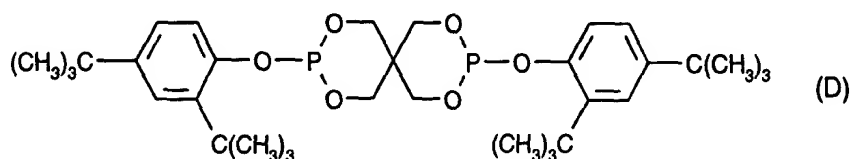
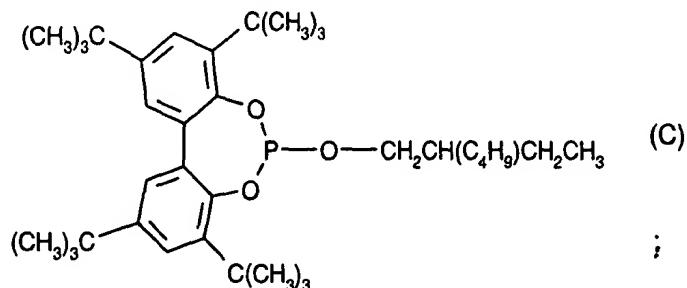
3. Metal deactivators, for example N,N'-diphenyloxamide, N-salicylal-N'-salicyloyl hydrazine, N,N'-bis(salicyloyl) hydrazine, N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl) hydrazine, 3-salicyloylamino-1,2,4-triazole, bis(benzylidene)oxalyl dihydrazide, oxanilide, isophthaloyl dihydrazide, sebacoyl bisphenylhydrazide, N,N'-diacetyl adipoyl dihydrazide, N,N'-bis(salicyloyl)oxalyl dihydrazide, N,N'-bis(salicyloyl)thiopropionyl dihydrazide.

4. Phosphites and phosphonites, for example triphenyl phosphite, diphenyl alkyl phosphites, phenyl dialkyl phosphites, tris(nonylphenyl) phosphite, trilauryl phosphite, trioctadecyl phosphite, distearyl pentaerythritol diphosphite, tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite, diisodecyl pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenyl)-pentaerythritol diphosphite, diisodecyloxypentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,4-di-tert-butyl-6-methylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,4,6-tris(tert-butylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite, tristearyl sorbitol triphosphite, tetrakis(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) 4,4'-biphenylene diphosphonite, 6-isoctyloxy-2,4,8,10-tetra-tert-butyl-12H-dibenz[d,g]-1,3,2-dioxaphosphocin, bis(2,4-di-tert-butyl-6-methylphenyl) methyl phosphite, bis(2,4-di-tert-butyl-6-methylphenyl) ethyl phosphite, 6-fluoro-2,4,8,10-tetra-tert-butyl-12-methyl-dibenz[d,g]-1,3,2-dioxaphosphocin, 2,2',2''-nitrido[triethyltris(3,3',5,5'-tetra-tert-butyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2,2'-diyl)phosphite], 2-ethylhexyl(3,3',5,5'-tetra-tert-butyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2,2'-diyl)phosphite, 5-butyl-5-ethyl-2-(2,4,6-tri-tert-butylphenoxy)-1,3,2-dioxaphosphirane.

Especially preferred are the following phosphites:

Tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite (Irgafos®168, Ciba-Geigy), tris(nonylphenyl) phosphite,





5. Hydroxylamines, for example, N,N-dibenzylhydroxylamine, N,N-diethylhydroxylamine, N,N-dioctylhydroxylamine, N,N-dilaurylhydroxylamine, N,N-ditetradecylhydroxylamine, N,N-dihexadecylhydroxylamine, N,N-diocetadecylhydroxylamine, N-hexadecyl-N-octadecylhydroxylamine, N-heptadecyl-N-octadecylhydroxylamine, N,N-dialkylhydroxylamine derived from hydrogenated tallow amine.

6. Nitrones, for example, N-benzyl-alpha-phenyl-nitrone, N-ethyl-alpha-methyl-nitrone, N-octyl-alpha-heptyl-nitrone, N-lauryl-alpha-undecyl-nitrone, N-tetradecyl-alpha-tridcyl-nitrone, N-

hexadecyl-alpha-pentadecyl-nitrone, N-octadecyl-alpha-heptadecyl-nitrone, N-hexadecyl-alpha-heptadecyl-nitrone, N-octadecyl-alpha-pentadecyl-nitrone, N-heptadecyl-alpha-heptadecyl-nitrone, N-octadecyl-alpha-hexadecyl-nitrone, nitrone derived from N,N-dialkylhydroxylamine derived from hydrogenated tallow amine.

7. Thiosynergists, for example, dilauryl thiodipropionate or distearyl thiodipropionate.

8. Peroxide scavengers, for example esters of β -thiodipropionic acid, for example the lauryl, stearyl, myristyl or tridecyl esters, mercaptobenzimidazole or the zinc salt of 2-mercaptobenzimidazole, zinc dibutyldithiocarbamate, dioctadecyl disulfide, pentaerythritol tetrakis(β -dodecylmercapto)propionate.

9. Polyamide stabilisers, for example, copper salts in combination with iodides and/or phosphorus compounds and salts of divalent manganese.

10. Basic co-stabilisers, for example, melamine, polyvinylpyrrolidone, dicyandiamide, triallyl cyanurate, urea derivatives, hydrazine derivatives, amines, polyamides, polyurethanes, alkali metal salts and alkaline earth metal salts of higher fatty acids for example calcium stearate, zinc stearate, magnesium behenate, magnesium stearate, sodium ricinoleate and potassium palmitate, antimony pyrocatecholate or zinc pyrocatecholate.

11. Nucleating agents, for example, inorganic substances such as talcum, metal oxides such as titanium dioxide or magnesium oxide, phosphates, carbonates or sulfates of, preferably, alkaline earth metals; organic compounds such as mono- or polycarboxylic acids and the salts thereof, e.g. 4-tert-butylbenzoic acid, adipic acid, diphenylacetic acid, sodium succinate or sodium benzoate; polymeric compounds such as ionic copolymers (ionomers). Especially preferred are 1,3:2,4-bis(3',4'-dimethylbenzylidene)sorbitol, 1,3:2,4-di(paramethyldibenzylidene)sorbitol, und 1,3:2,4-di(benzylidene)sorbitol.

12. Fillers and reinforcing agents, for example, calcium carbonate, silicates, glass fibres, glass bulbs, asbestos, talc, kaolin, mica, barium sulfate, metal oxides and hydroxides, carbon black, graphite, wood flour and flours or fibers of other natural products, synthetic fibers.

13. Other additives, for example, plasticisers, lubricants, emulsifiers, pigments, rheology additives, catalysts, flow-control agents, optical brighteners, flameproofing agents, antistatic agents and blowing agents.

14. Benzofuranones and indolinones, for example those disclosed in U.S. 4,325,863; U.S. 4,338,244; U.S. 5,175,312; U.S. 5,216,052; U.S. 5,252,643; DE-A-4316611; DE-A-4316622; DE-A-4316876; EP-A-0589839 or EP-A-0591102 or 3-[4-(2-acetoxyethoxy)-phenyl]-5,7-di-tert-butyl-benzofuran-2-one, 5,7-di-tert-butyl-3-[4-(2-stearoyloxyethoxy)phenyl]benzofuran-2-one, 3,3'-bis[5,7-di-tert-butyl-3-(4-[2-hydroxyethoxy]phenyl)benzofuran-2-one], 5,7-di-tert-butyl-3-(4-ethoxyphenyl)benzofuran-2-one, 3-(4-acetoxy-3,5-dimethylphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butyl-benzofuran-2-one, 3-(3,5-dimethyl-4-pivaloyloxyphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butyl-benzofuran-2-one, 3-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butyl-benzofuran-2-one, 3-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butyl-benzofuran-2-one.

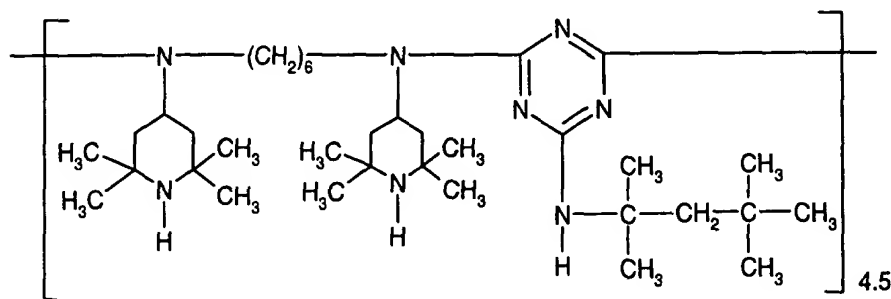
The weight ratio of the stabilizer mixture to the conventional additives can be for example 1:0.5 to 1:5.

The examples below illustrate the invention in greater detail. All percentages or parts are by weight, unless stated otherwise.

Stabilizer mixtures used in EXAMPLES 1 and 2:

Stabilizer mixture II-1:

The compounds



and

10 % butene comonomer, melt flow index ~ 5.0 g/10 minutes at 190°C and 2160 g) are homogenized at 180°C for 10 minutes in a Brabender plastograph with 0.02 parts of octadecyl 3-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionate, 0.08 parts of tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite, 0.1 part of Ca stearate and the amount of the light stabilizer system indicated in Tables 1 and 2. The material thus obtained is compression molded in a laboratory press between two aluminum foils for 6 minutes at 170°C to a 0.2 mm thick film which is quenched immediately in cold water. Samples of 60 mm x 25 mm are cut out of these 0.2 mm films and are exposed in a [®]WEATHER-OMETER Ci 65 (black panel temperature $63 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$, without water-spraying). Periodically, these samples are removed from the exposure apparatus and their carbonyl content is measured with an infrared spectrophotometer.

The exposure time ($T_{0.1}$) corresponding to the formation of a carbonyl absorbance of 0.1 is a measure for the stabilizing efficiency of the light stabilizer system. The values obtained are summarized in the following Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1:

| Light Stabilization | $T_{0.1}$ in hours |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 0.15 % of the stabilizer mixture II-1 | 11230 |
| 0.30 % of the stabilizer mixture II-1 | 17365 |

Table 2:

| Light Stabilization | $T_{0.1}$ in hours |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 0.15 % of the stabilizer mixture II-2 | 12000 |
| 0.30 % of the stabilizer mixture II-2 | 17175 |

EXAMPLE 2: Light stabilization of metallocene polypropylene films.

100 parts of unstabilized metallocene polypropylene powder (melt flow index ~ 20 g/10 minutes at 230°C and 2160 g) are homogenized at 200°C for 10 minutes in a Brabender plastograph with 0.05 parts of pentaerythrityl-tetrakis[3-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl) propionate], 0.1 part of tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite, 0.1 part of Ca

stearate and the amount of the light stabilizer system indicated in Table 3. The material thus obtained is compression molded in a laboratory press between two aluminum foils for 6 minutes at 260°C to a 0.5 mm thick film which is cooled immediately to room temperature in a water-cooled press. Samples of 60 mm x 25 mm are cut out of these 0.5 mm films and are exposed in a [®]WEATHER-OMETER Ci 65 (black panel temperature $63 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$, without water-spraying).

Periodically, these samples are removed from the exposure apparatus and their carbonyl content is measured with an infrared spectrophotometer.

The exposure time ($T_{0.2}$) corresponding to the formation of a carbonyl absorbance of 0.2 is a measure for the stabilizing efficiency of the light stabilizer system. The values obtained are summarized in the following Table 3.

Table 3:

| Light Stabilization | $T_{0.2}$ in hours |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 0.40 % of the stabilizer mixture II-1 | 9280 |

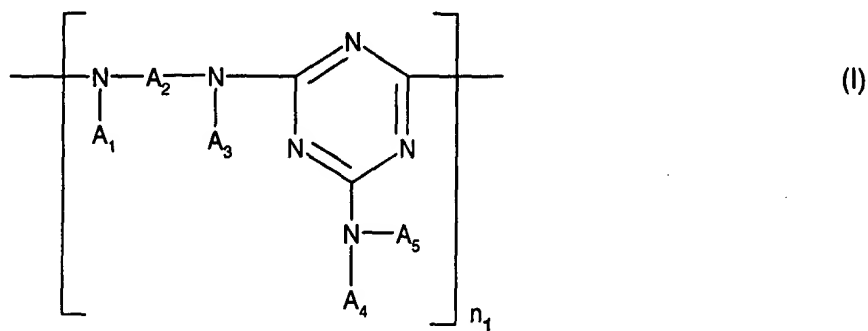
Claims:

1. A composition containing

I) a polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst, and

II) a stabilizer mixture comprising two different components selected from the group of components a), b) and c);

component a) is at least one compound of the formula (I)



wherein

A₁, A₃, A₄ and A₅ independently of one another are hydrogen, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl, C₁-C₄alkyl-substituted C₅-C₁₂cycloalkyl, phenyl, -OH- and/or C₁-C₁₀alkyl-substituted phenyl, C₇-C₉phenylalkyl, C₇-C₉phenylalkyl which is substituted on the phenyl radical by -OH and/or C₁-C₁₀alkyl; or a group of the formula (II),



with A₆ being hydrogen, C₁-C₈alkyl, O-, -OH-, -CH₂CN, C₁-C₁₈alkoxy, C₅-C₁₂cycloalkoxy, C₃-C₆alkenyl, C₇-C₉phenylalkyl unsubstituted or substituted on the phenyl by 1, 2 or 3 C₁-C₄alkyl; or C₁-C₈acyl,

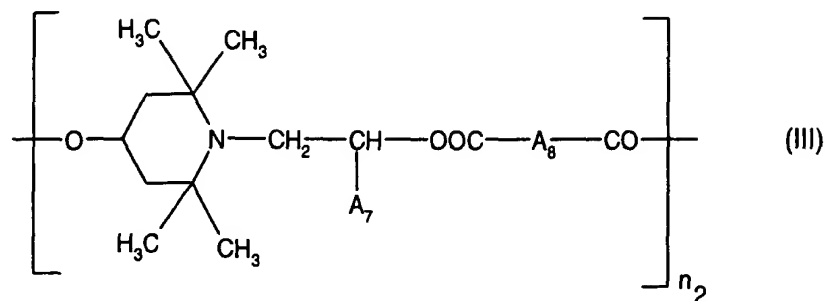
A₂ is C₂-C₁₈alkylene, C₅-C₇cycloalkylene or C₁-C₄alkylenedi(C₅-C₇cycloalkylene), or the radicals A₁, A₂ and A₃, together with the nitrogen atoms to which they are attached, form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, or

A₄ and A₅, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring,

n₁ is a number from 2 to 50, and

at least one of the radicals A₁, A₃, A₄ and A₅ is a group of the formula (II);

component b) is at least one compound of the formula (III)



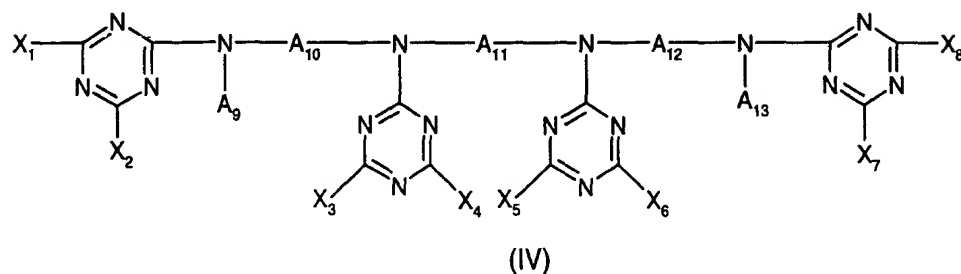
wherein

A_7 is hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl,

A_8 is a direct bond or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene and

n_2 is a number from 2 to 50; and

component c) is at least one compound of the formula (IV)



wherein

A_9 and A_{13} independently of one another are hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12}$ alkyl,

A_{10} , A_{11} and A_{12} independently of one another are $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene, and

X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 , X_5 , X_6 , X_7 and X_8 independently of one another are a group of the formula (V),



in which A_{14} is hydrogen, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{12}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl-substituted

$\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{12}$ cycloalkyl, phenyl, $-\text{OH}$ - and/or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl-substituted phenyl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_9$ phenylalkyl,

$\text{C}_7\text{-C}_9$ phenylalkyl which is substituted on the phenyl radical by $-\text{OH}$ and/or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl; or a

group of the formula (II) as defined above, and

A_{15} has one of the meanings of A_6 ;

with the proviso that the group $-\text{N}(\text{A}_4)(\text{A}_5)$ does not contain a cycloalkyl group when the

stabilizer mixture comprises the two components a) and b).

2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein A_6 and A_{15} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

3. A composition according to claim 1 wherein

A_1 , A_3 , A_4 and A_5 independently of one another are hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, methyl-substituted C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenylalkyl or a group of the formula (II), or the radicals A_4 and A_5 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 6-membered heterocyclic ring,

A_2 is C_2 - C_{10} alkylene, and

n_1 is a number from 2 to 25;

A_7 is hydrogen or methyl,

A_8 is ethylene; and

n_2 is a number from 2 to 25; and

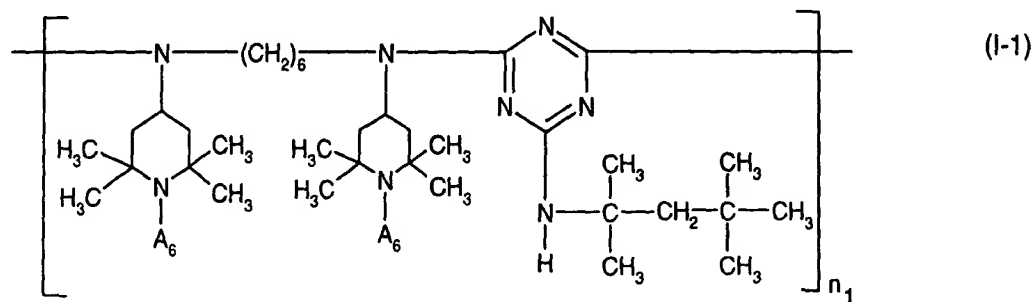
A_9 and A_{13} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl,

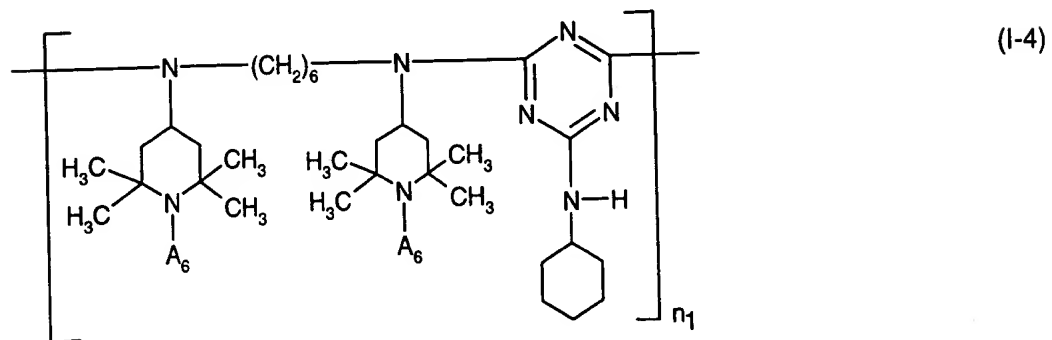
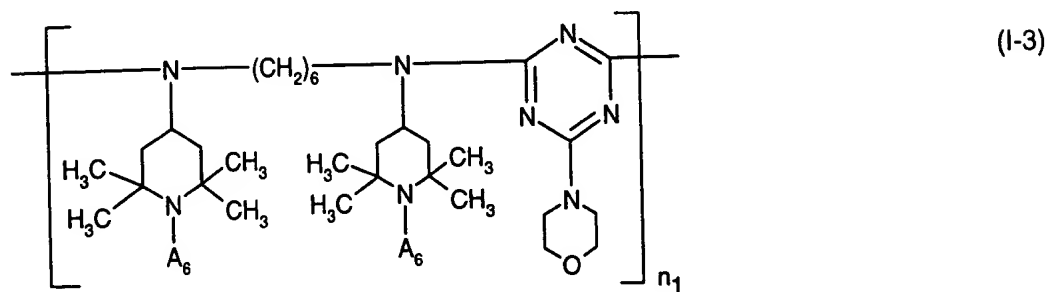
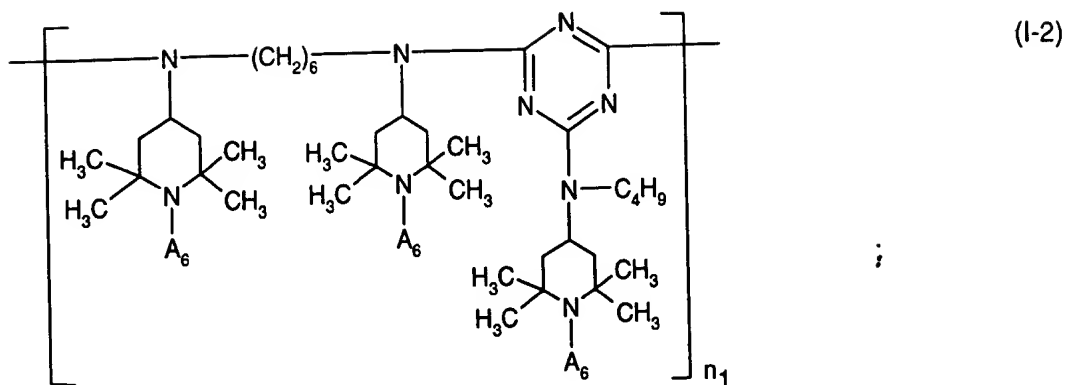
A_{10} , A_{11} and A_{12} independently of one another are C_2 - C_6 alkylene, and

A_{14} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, methyl-substituted C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenylalkyl or a group of the formula (II).

4. A composition according to claim 1 wherein

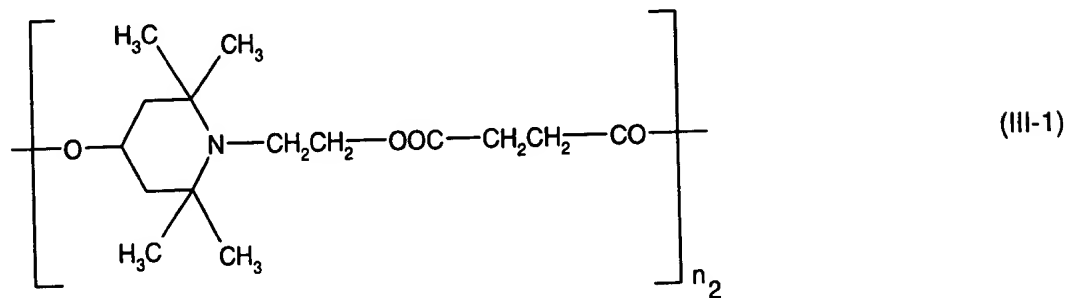
component a) is at least one compound of the formula (I-1), (I-2), (I-3) or (I-4);





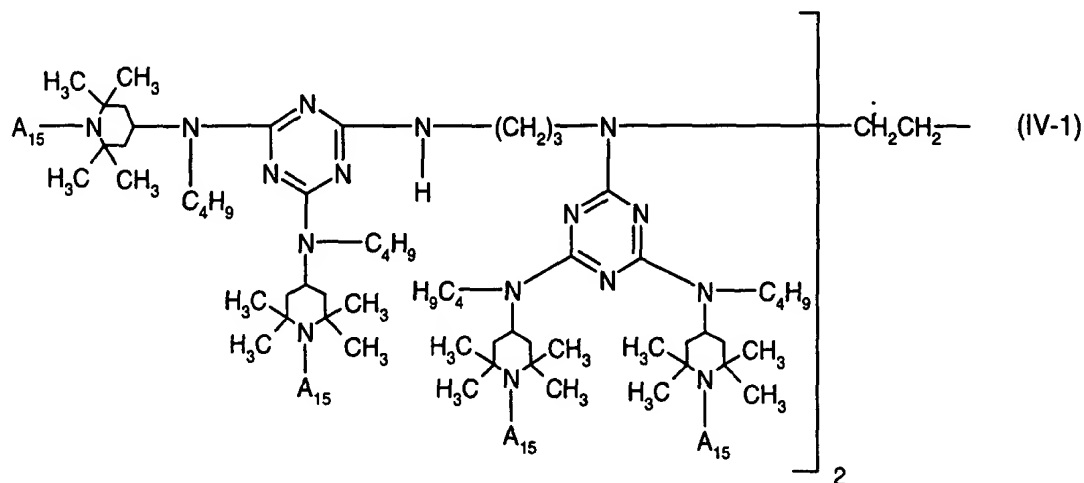
wherein A_6 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl and n_1 is a number from 2 to 25;

component b) is a compound of the formula (III-1)



wherein n_2 is a number from 2 to 25; and

component c) is at least one compound of the formula (IV-1)



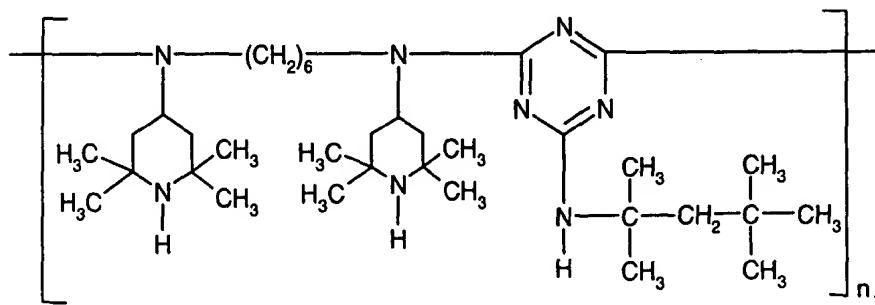
wherein A_{15} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

5. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the two different components of the stabilizer mixture are the components a) and b).

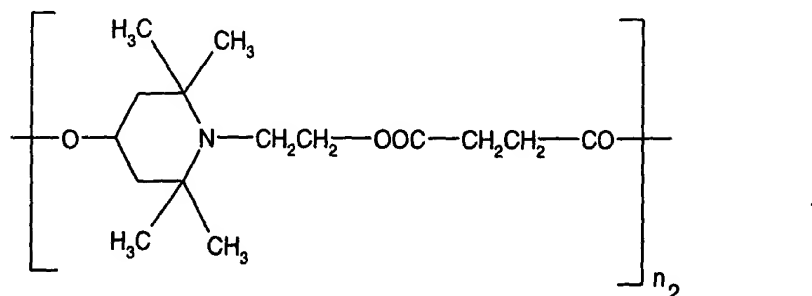
6. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the two different components of the stabilizer mixture are the components a) and c).

7. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the two different components of the stabilizer mixture are the components b) and c).

8. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the stabilizer mixture comprises the compounds

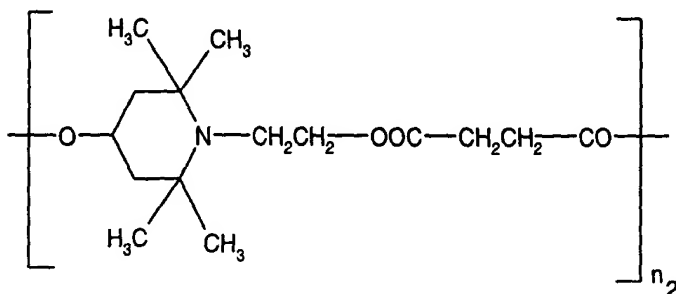


and

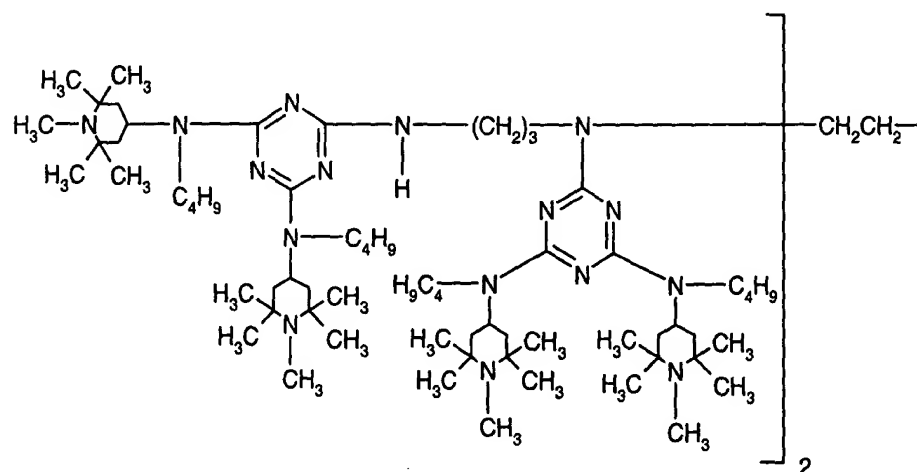


with n_1 and n_2 being a number from 2 to 25.

9. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the stabilizer mixture comprises the compounds



and



with n_2 being a number from 2 to 25.

10. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst is polyethylene or polypropylene.

11. A composition according to claim 1 additionally comprising a polyolefin not prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst.

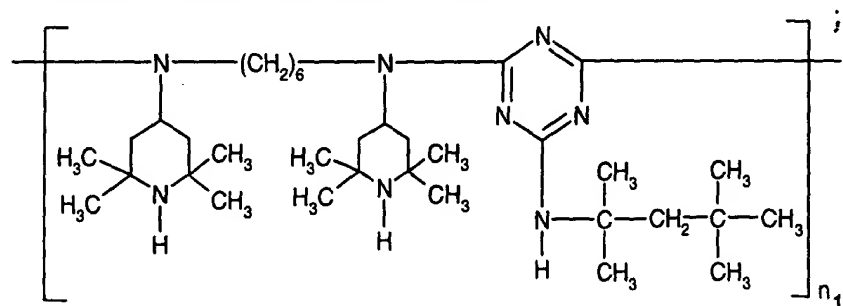
12. A method for stabilizing a polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst, which comprises incorporating into said polyolefin a stabilizer mixture as defined in claim 1.

Abstract

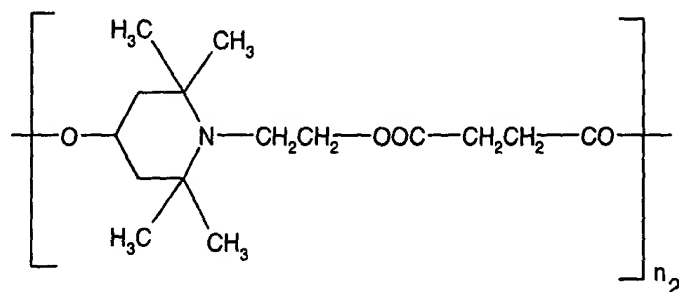
A composition containing

I) a polyolefin prepared by polymerization over a metallocene catalyst, and

II) a stabilizer mixture comprising for example



and



with n_1 and n_2 being a number from 2 to 25.